

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 MAY 1985

Lebanon

Syrian Forces — Syrian forces surrounded Palestinian camps in north Lebanon, Palestinian sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio stated, adding that Syrian and Amal units surrounded the Palestinian Al-Jalil camp near Ba'labakk. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon disclosed the same day that a Palestinian brigade in the Turbul area was "replaced" by a Syrian Army force and that there is movement by Palestinians and Amal in Al-Biqa', the eastern mountain chain, and Ba'labakk areas.

Political Efforts — President Amin al-Jumayyil and Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki held morning talks 29 May, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon disclosed, while Voice of Lebanon radio stated that Al-Jumayyil leaves in the afternoon for the Damascus summit. When Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi called Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, he was asked by Junblatt not to be "hasty" in taking a position since contacts being made by the PSP, the National Democratic Front, and Syria are about to achieve a "solution," PSP radio observed. In other developments, the Egyptian foreign minister, in consultation with the PLO and Jordan, called on the UN Security Council to protect Palestinian refugees and camps with UN Forces, MENA revealed.

IDF — The IDF completed evacuation of "most" positions in western and central sections of the security strip in southern Lebanon, but a "large force" remains deployed in the eastern sector, Jerusalem radio announced 29 May.

Syria-USSR

Monitored Syrian sources have not been observed to mention Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's "short and secret" visit to the Soviet Union, which ended early 28 May as reported by KUNA. The "urgent request" from the Soviets concerned the current Lebanese fighting in the Palestinian camps, KUNA stated.

Iran-Iraq

"Timely use" of radar and heavy air defenses foiled the fifth and sixth Iraqi air raids against the Iranian capital, Tehran radio reported. However, the Iranian military communique carried by IRNA announced that "scores of civilians" were killed or wounded by Iraqi raids on 8 Iranian cities, while Iranian forces bombarded 12 Iraqi cities in retaliation and killed at least 40 Iraqi troops on the front lines. Military sources cited by IRNA described the Iranian joint air and ground attack against a Basra Province power plant at Az-Zubayr as "exceptionally bold in the history of aerial battles." Meanwhile, Iran categorically denied the 27 May Iraqi claim of downing an Iranian plane as face-saving propaganda, IRNA stated.

Acknowledging Iranian attacks and the missile attack on Baghdad, the Iraqi Armed Forces communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio recounted a total of 16 air raids against 10 Iranian cities or military camps.

Arab League Committee-USSR

The visit to the Soviet Union by a 7-man Arab League Committee tasked with resolving the Iran-Iraq conflict was "successful" the Kuwaiti delegate stated in a KUNA interview. He noted assurances that the Soviet Union will exert all efforts to find a solution to the war including "direct contacts with Iran." Baghdad radio reviewed the committee's 27 May talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and related the USSR's reaffirmation of the need to solve the conflict peacefully. Following Gromyko's talks with the committee, he met the Jordanian foreign minister, who is also in the delegation, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Using "strong language," Gromyko conveyed the USSR's "strong stand" against the Amman agreement and its opposition to unilateral settlement of the Mideast crisis, the radio maintained. INA reported that Gromyko met with Iraq's delegate Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz 28 May in a cordial atmosphere to discuss bilateral ties and the war that "Iran insists on continuing."

Bahrain

Bahrain "officially" denied a report by a West German news agency that there was a recent coup attempt in Bahrain. Al-Shariqah *AL-KHALIJ* disclosed. A Tehran radio commentary noted that the Bahraini authorities uncovered a "Saddamist conspiratorial network" whose mission was to stage a military coup in Bahrain after infiltrating the officer corp.

Sudan

Sudan is careful to "preserve its neutrality and remove its independent decisionmaking from power blocs," Prime Minister al-Jazuli DaFallah stated in comments carried by SUNA on his meeting with visiting U.S. official Chester Crocker. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and U.S. aid, DaFallah said. Crocker, who also met with both the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, affirmed U.S. support for Sudan and noted that neighboring countries are engaged in activities to undermine Sudan's unity and stability, the agency added. As for dialogue with the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement leader John Garang, DaFallah reconfirmed that the government is ready for a dialogue inside or outside the country, while Sudan's General Federation of Trade Unions appealed to Garang to hold talks rather than continue fighting, SUNA reported.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Karmal Speaks at Polish Tractor Plant 17 May
LD260928 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT
 18 May 85

[“Text” of speech by PDPA General Secretary Babrak Karmal delivered 17 May at the Ursus Tractor Plant in Warsaw - read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Comrades, friends, and heroic workers of fraternal Poland: It is a pleasure for the high-ranking DRA party and state delegation to meet you brother and sister workers at the close of our visit to the beautiful country of the Polish People's Republic [PPR]. Allow me to convey to you the best and most sincere revolutionary greetings of all the DRA workers and, on behalf of the high-ranking DRA party and state delegation, express my heartfelt gratitude for your warm welcome.

During the friendly and official visit to your country, we carried out useful and effective talks and discussions with dear Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski and other party and state leaders of the PPR which are of great importance in further expanding fraternal relations between our countries.

Dear worker comrades and friends, looking back on the life experience and proud history of your country, you know better than everyone else that economic and social transformation in the interest of the masses has not been created easily and certainly confronts the resistance of reaction and imperialism, which obstinately strive to restore their interests. Reaction and imperialism do not waste any opportunity to confront the risen revolutionary countries and the socialist countries for their greedy interests. The shameless provocation of imperialism against the PPR and the imposition of an undeclared war against our revolutionary country are the best evidence of this fact.

The April Revolution, which ended the domination of exploiting feudalists and corrupt bureaucrats in our country, established workers' sovereignty in the DRA, and ended our dependence on world imperialism, aroused the beastly anger of imperialism, hegemonism, and reaction, headed by U.S. imperialism.

Imperialism strived, on the one hand, to lead our revolution astray by infiltrating its spies and agents and turning our people against it, and, on the other by training, financing, arming, and sending counterrevolutionaries into our country to murder and plunder and to crush our revolution, suffocating it in blood.

Blessed by the vigilance of the healthy forces of the PDPA — the party of the working class and every worker in the country — we were able, however, to end the conspiracies and plots of imperialism and put the revolution onto its principled course by defending it with sacrifice. The undeclared war against our people and homeland is the crudest manifestation of the bestial strategy and policy of imperialism. To continue this war, thousands of counter-revolutionary bandits are being trained, armed, and equipped in the military training camps located in Pakistan, Iran, and Sinkiang Province in China by American, Chinese, Pakistani, and other instructors. They are being sent to our revolutionary and free-born country to murder and plunder our innocent people and to destroy and ruin our homeland.

Washington guides these counterrevolutionary operations directly and, as stated by American authorities themselves, the CIA has now waged its biggest operation since the Vietnam war against our country. The undeclared war unleashed against the DRA, whose dimensions are expanding day by day, is a clear aggression by imperialist countries with the assistance of the militarist regime of Pakistan and of Arab and Israeli reaction, using the Pakistani territory as a spring-board of aggression against our country's territorial integrity, independence, and national sovereignty. The undeclared war is regarded as one of the strategic points of U.S. imperialist aggression for dominating the world, including our region.

In this ruthless war against our country, the reactionary rulers of Iran are participating broadly and shamelessly and are completing the circle of foreign interference in the internal affairs of our country. Imperialism has so far officially spent more than \$1 billion financing this war. Looking back on the life experience and history of your country, we know that completely repulsing the conspiracies of imperialism is not possible without the assistance of world socialism, headed by the Soviet Union — the firm fortress in the defense of peace and social progress in the world. It is natural that our country could not defend its independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity alone against our revolution and country, without the assistance of our international friends.

In the difficult conditions of the very existence of our free and independent country being at stake, the Soviet Union, the tested, sincere, and historic friend of the people of Afghanistan, responded positively to the request of the legal Government of the DRA regarding the dispatch of limited military contingents to our country and helped the people of Afghanistan defend their independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity against foreign aggression.

Dear comrade workers, the people of Afghanistan, despite the difficult conditions created by the undeclared war, have achieved spectacular success under the leadership of the PDPA and are courageously defending the gains of their work against the internal and external enemies.

Profound social and economic transformations that have occurred in our country in accordance with the scientifically-prepared PDPA plan of action have prepared the objective grounds for the participation of workers in the construction of a new and just society. After the establishment of the workers' power in the country, the DRA Basic Principles came into force, and based on this the democratic rights and freedoms of people — the right to live and to be secure, the equality of man and woman, the complete freedom to carry out religious ceremonies, the right to work, the entitlement to health care, the right to education, and other democratic rights of the inhabitants of the country — were guaranteed.

The leading role of the young working class of Afghanistan is increasing daily both quantitatively and qualitatively with active participation in all aspects of social life. Also, their living standards are improving. Hundreds of thousands of peasant families have become land owners free of charge as a result of the implementation of the democratic land and water reform. The

implementation of these reforms, as one of the main tasks of the present phase of our national democratic revolution, is continuing with the active participation of the peasants themselves.

The revolution has prepared the ground for ensuring genuine equality among tribes and nationalities in the country and their active participation in the sociopolitical life of the country as well as in the defense of the gains of the revolution. It has created real possibilities for their participation in the administration and leadership of state affairs. In the National Fatherland Front, which constitutes the foundation of the revolutionary power of workers in the country, more than 700,000 compatriots have been organized so far in 16 social organizations and are playing a prominent role in consolidating the links between the party and the people. With the victory of the revolution, potential has been created for the first time for women to participate in all aspects of the political, social, and economic life of the country. At the moment tens of thousands of women are actively participating in the process of production, management, and the defense of the revolution. The struggle against illiteracy is being carried out constantly and earnestly in order to accomplish a cultural revolution in the country. So far, over 1 million people in the country have become literate. A new system of education and training has been created and implemented.

Believing that the revolution's objectives cannot be realized without favorable international conditions — that is, the establishment of lasting peace in the world and in the region — the DRA, as an independent, peace-loving, and nonaligned country with a peaceful foreign policy, has always been interested in reducing tension in the region and solving disputes with neighbors through negotiations. The DRA has always paid serious attention to the urgent cause of our era, maintaining peace and security. We profoundly believe that the prevention of the arms race, reduction of international tension, and the observation of the principles of peaceful coexistence can only be possible by realizing the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union.

Dear comrades and friends, we take with us happy memories and useful experiences from your beautiful country as souvenirs. The official and friendly visit by the high-ranking DRA party and state delegation to your country and the close meetings with you dear workers are another important step toward expanding and strengthening relations between the parties, states, and people of the two fraternal countries. Throughout our stay in your country, we felt true fraternal and internationalist friendship, the good memory of which will remain forever.

Strength to the new type of fraternal friendship between the DRA and the PPR!

Long live the international solidarity of the workers of the world!

Dost Meets With Cordovez, UN Delegation 28 May
LD281735 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost met special envoy Diego Cordovez, UN assistant secretary general, in Dost's office at 1500 today. They held friendly talks on the search for a

political solution to the situation surrounding Afghanistan. Sarwar Yuresh and Khodydad, Basharmal, deputy ministers of foreign affairs, and members of the Cordovez delegation were also present at the talks.

The UN secretary general's envoy arrived in Kabul at 1100 today following a round of talks in Geneva between the DRA and Pakistani delegations and an earlier visit to the region for talks about his mission. Cordovez and his delegation were welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Sarwar Yuresh; Sakhi Daneshjo, adviser to the Foreign Ministry; a representative of the Foreign Ministry's protocol section; and Samendu Kumar Banerjee, the UNDP representative in the DRA.

Minister Speaks at Kabul Communications Seminar
LD281523 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 26 May 85

[Text] Kabul, May 25, (BAKHTAR) — A seminar of the leading personnel of the Ministry of Communications from all over the country opened here.

Speaking at the seminar, Aslam Watanjar, minister of communications said that definite measures have been taken to implement the socio-economic development plan of the last Afghan year (ended March 20, 1985). The measures included 13 carry-over and new communications projects. Specific plans were designed in this respect and put into practice.

During recent years, Aslam Watanjar added, 160 radio stations were installed in various parts of the country, while the number of radio stations prior to revolution in the country amounted to only 13.

In order to maintain international communications through satellite for the exchange of TV programs and enhancing Afghanistan's links with foreign countries, Shamshad satellite ground station was installed and is being utilized.

Radio transmitters prior to revolution reached to eight all over the country but now 20 radio units are functioning in the capital and provinces of the country.

TV programs which were confined only to Kabul city are now extended to seven provinces. Effective measures have also been taken as regards the extension of automatic telephone lines which have been raised from 17,700 to 22,500 which shows a 271 percent increase.

Anniversary of Relations With USSR Marked
LD280602 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Kabul, May 27, BAKHTAR: The 66th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union was marked here today.

Lenin, the founder of the Soviet state, sent a message to the then King Amanullah on May 27, 1919. The message emphasized that the establishment of permanent diplomatic relations between the

two great nations will present broad opportunities for mutual assistance against any encroachment by foreign predatory forces on their freedom.

The conclusion of the Soviet-Afghan Treaty of Friendship in February 1921 and the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two neighbouring countries showed that the Soviet state was undeviatingly following its principal foreign policy, respect for national independence and territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of each other and mutually advantageous cooperation on an equal footing. This put an end to Afghanistan's isolation in the international arena in which it was kept for many years by British colonialists.

The history of Soviet-Afghan relations testifies to the Soviet state's constant desire to help Afghanistan strengthen its independence and develop many-sided cooperation between the two countries.

Economic cooperation between the USSR and Afghanistan, which meets the national interests of the Afghan people, grew considerably after World War 2 with Soviet assistance. Large economic projects have been built in the country — a nitrogen fertilizer plant in Mazar-e Sharif, the first one in the chemical industry, a motor road in the mountains crossing the Salang Pass, the Naghlu and Daruntah power stations, the Nangarhar irrigation system and mechanised farms. The Soviet Union also helped to build and equip a polytechnical college and technical schools training mechanics and oil mining workers.

After the victory of the national democratic revolution in Afghanistan in April 1978, the inviolability of equal relations was confirmed by the Treaty of Friendship.

Good-neighbourliness and cooperation that was concluded on December 5, 1978 also reflected a qualitatively new nature of contacts between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. The USSR and Afghanistan are now united by joint struggle against imperialism, for peace, social justice and progress.

When soon after the April Revolution the imperialist forces, led by the USA, started an undeclared war against Afghanistan, the Soviet Union loyal to its obligations came to the assistance of the Afghan people at the request of the Afghan Government.

Just as in 1919 when Afghanistan won its independence and Soviet-Afghan diplomatic relations were established, now too, when Afghanistan is defending its independence and revolutionary gains, the Soviet Union is invariably on its side.

Rebels, Material Captured in Zabul, Jowzjan

*LD281717 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
28 May 85*

[Text] A BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a source of Zabul Province's security force, reports that as a result of successful operations carried out recently by the security forces in Ghazah and Sorkh Akan villages, Shah Juy District, and the environs of Tazi Rabat region, Zabul Province, 18 armed rebels including their ringleader, Mawlawi Habibullah, belonging to the murder-

ous Harakat-e Eslami band, were crushed and a number of the savage criminals were captured. The security forces seized from them 30 Chinese surface-to-surface missiles, 5 DShK's, 3 mortars, 3 heavy machineguns, 25 Egyptian and Chinese Kalashnikovs, and a large quantity of ammunition, and 2 tractors and 2 other vehicles which had been taken by force from the defenseless people of those areas.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations carried out by the militant security force in Jowzjan Province, a number of armed rebels were crushed and 17 were captured. The security forces seized from them 21 various types of weapons together with large quantities of ammunition, a quantity of medicine, a motorcycle, 17 horses, a loudspeaker and a pair of binoculars.

Commentary on U.S. Funding Counterrevolution

LD280556 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Kabul, May 27, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: U.S. Congress has denied the White House 14 million dollars to be given the contras operating against Nicaragua. At first President Reagan asked the sum for direct military backing for Nicaraguan counter-revolution then he asked it as "humanitarian aid", but again got nothing. What did not work against Nicaragua has been done against Afghanistan. Last week the Senate approved the giving of another 15 million dollars to Afghan terrorists for "humanitarian ends".

We know examples of American "humanitarianism" when CIA agents brought to Afghanistan radio-controlled and toy mines, blasted bombs during cinema performances for children and planted mines in city trolley-buses.

Aid to Afghan terrorists earlier arrived through secret channels. In U.S. press figures, the CIA will give them 280 million dollars worth of arms and equipment this fiscal year. The United States has spent the total of over one billion dollars on the undeclared war it is waging against the people of Afghanistan. Now Washington has decided to throw off the mask behind which it tries to hide its involvement in the armed aggression against Afghanistan.

Appearing recently before the Republicans, President Reagan again hypocritically urged the "spreading of the boundaries of freedom in the world". This is to be achieved, in his opinion, particularly through the continuation and expansion of the American aid to the "resistance" in Afghanistan and Nicaragua, or, to put it differently, through escalating the undeclared wars which the United States is waging, with the use of the entire range of methods of state-sponsored terrorism, against these two sovereign states.

At that, the U.S. President freely uses the words "freedom" and "democracy" and calls the support for counter-revolution in Nicaragua and Afghanistan "the struggle against totalitarianism". The peoples of our two countries have experienced the totalitarianism and dictatorship of Somoza and Da'ud and have toppled them in the Sandinist and April Revolutions. Today Reagan supports similar dictatorships across the world, particu-

larly in Chile, South Africa and in neighbouring Pakistan. He wants restoration of dictatorial regimes in Afghanistan and Nicaragua and spends hundreds of millions of dollars to maintain and arm mercenary counter-revolutionary bands.

The Afghan and Nicaraguan peoples know how to defend their freedom and independence, to uphold their revolutionary gains. The mercenary bands being sent inside Nicaragua from Honduras and inside Afghanistan from Pakistan suffer one defeat after another despite the instigation and material backing from the reactionary forces of imperialism led by the United States.

THE MUSLIM: New Mujahidin Alliance Formed

GF281756 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 18 May 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Peshawar, May 17: Seven prominent Afghan refugee leaders based at Peshawar belonging to the two major groups have formed a new alliance namely Etehad-e Eslami Afghan Mujahidin.

Announcing the decision at an emergency news conference last night, a spokesman of the new alliance said that the unity has not been brought under any internal or external pressure. The new alliance, he said comprises of four components of the seven party

alliance and three from other groups. The remaining three smaller groups of the Mujahidin he said would merge themselves in the alliance without constituting any group as they were the breakaway of the original parties.

After the alliance was formed Mr. Gulbuddin while talking to newsmen said that a delegation consisting of eminent personalities of the seven parties would form a committee which would coordinate between the various component parties until the alliance chairman, president and other office bearers of the alliance were elected. Replying to various questions, he said we are already coordinating our war efforts inside Afghanistan specially in Qandahar, Ghazni, Konduz, Paktia and Mazar-e Sharif where our joint groups of guerillas are fighting.

About any compromise between the two different groups, the spokesman said our unity was for accelerating and coordinating our Jihad and there was no question of such compromise at this juncture. The alliance spokesman said we are intending to seek representation on various international forums like the United Nations and the Organisation of Islamic Conference. Under the new arrangement, he said various details of the alliance would soon be formulated and the shura elected. All the heads of the parties of the alliance were present on the occasion.

Delhi: Ershad Promises National Elections 'Soon'

*BK281407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 28 May 85*

[Text] The Bangladesh president, General Ershad, has said that national elections would be held soon to establish a democratic government. At a meeting of the 468 upzila [subdistrict] chairmen elected in last week's local elections, he said he will soon invite political leaders for a dialogue for finalizing a timetable for parliamentary and presidential elections. General Ershad also said that the elections will be held in accordance with the suspended Constitution. He called for a cooperation of political parties for a speedy return to democracy.

Further Reportage on Cyclone Damage, Aid Effort**Aid to Storm Victims**

*BK280335 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT
28 May 85*

[Text] National mourning day is being observed today as a mark of respect to the memories of those who lost their lives in the devastating cyclonic storm and tidal waves on Friday last. The national flag is flying at half-mast on all public buildings and our missions abroad. Today's program includes offering of special prayers in old mosque and other places of worship for the salvation of the departed souls. In Dhaka, the Islamic Foundation is holding a Zaibana Namaze Janaza [funeral prayers] at the Baithul Mukarram [words indistinct] after asar prayers today.

The national committee which was formed at special camps [words indistinct] for providing succor to the cyclone affected people had its first meeting yesterday to review the relief operations in the affected areas. Presided over by the chairman of the committee and DCMLA [deputy chief, martial law administrator], Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed, the meeting was attended among others by the PSO [principal staff officer] to the CMLA [chief, martial law administrator], Major General M. Atiqur Rahman.

Meanwhile, relief and rehabilitation operations are going on in full swing in all the affected areas. President Hussain Mohammad Ershad yesterday visited Urirchar, one of the worst affected areas and himself distributed relief materials and [words indistinct]. The DCMLA and the minister for industries, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, also visited some offshore islands yesterday and arranged distribution of relief materials under his personal supervision. The relief materials distributed were rice, flour, bread, dal [pulse], milk, and other essential commodities. The Department of Public Health engineering has taken up a crash program to repair tube wells and install new ones in the affected areas of the coastal district [words indistinct] drinking water. Tube well equipment and spare parts along with mechanics have been already dispatched to the (?worst) affected areas. Public health engineering offices and units in the affected areas have been alerted about the possible consequences of the cyclone and (?tidal surge). Special squads with mechanics and technicians with adequate quantities of tube well equipment and spares have been deployed in Sandwip, Saint Martins (Thapia), Shublan, Maheshkhali, Bhola, (Neemganj), (Thekukara),

(Shupakunde), (Neereshkhalai), Goleki, and Rangabali areas. Major ships are carrying tube well spares and equipment to mainpur and Sandwip areas. Relief and rescue squads including those of the armed forces and [word indistinct] have intensified their operation in all the affected areas.

Various countries of the world as well as [word indistinct] organizations at home and abroad have announced donations to the cyclone and flood affected victims. The League of Red Cross and the Red Crescent societies (?appeal) for \$1.7 million for the affected people. The U.S. ambassador to Bangladesh, Mr Howard B. Schaffer has pledged \$25,000 from the president's emergency relief fund for the cyclone victims. Britain will donate 50,000 sterling pounds as emergency aid. The West German Red Cross in a statement in Bonn said that it is offering \$100,000. It also urged the West German public to donate to the cyclone victims in Bangladesh.

At home different organizations and chambers of commerce and industry have expressed their profound grief and sorrow at the loss of life and properties by the cyclone. The Dhaka chamber has formed a relief camp and urged its members to donate generously. The Lion's Club is sending its team to the affected areas with relief materials. The Bangladesh Medical Association is also sending a medical relief team. It urged its members to actively participate in the medical relief operations directly and cooperate with the government in its relief efforts.

The Bangladesh Navy Family Welfare Association yesterday sent relief materials to Sandwip. The Bangladesh (?Coast Guard Association) has opened a relief fund and center at its national office in Dhaka.

The latest official report in Dhaka says with 10 more deaths reported from Khatial and (Sholagazi) the death toll has now risen to 1,334. According to agencies, floating bodies of victims started reaching in large numbers within the vicinity of Chittagong port.

Second Cyclone Approaching

HK281545 Hong Kong AFP in English 1538 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 28 (AFP) Another cyclone is threatening to hit the Indian Subcontinent hard on the heels of Friday's storm which ravaged the southern coast of Bangladesh and killed thousands, weathermen said here today.

S.K. Das told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that a deep depression lay centred about 900 kilometres (562 miles) off India's Bombay coast and was travelling at a speed of 57 kms per hour (26 miles per hour).

He said its mass was equal to Friday's cyclone.

Mr. Das said the deep depression, spotted by an Indian weather satellite at 1100 GMT today, was heading toward India, but could change its course to veer into the gulf region.

Mourning Day

*BK281636 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
28 May 85*

[Excerpt] National mourning day was observed today as a mark of respect to the memories of those who lost their lives in the devastating cyclonic storm and tidal bore on Friday last. The national flag flew at half-mast on all public buildings and our missions abroad. The day's program included offering of special prayers in all mosques and other places of worship for the salvation of the departed souls. A Gaibana Namaze Janazah [funeral prayer in absentia] was held at Baitul Mukarram national mosque in Dhaka after 'Asr [afternoon] prayers today for the cyclone victims of Friday night. It was attended by thousands of people. President Hussain Mohammad Ershad along with his cabinet ministers also attended the Gaibana Namaze Janazah. The Gaibana Janazah is part of the official program announced for national mourning day which is being observed today throughout the country as a mark of respect to those who died on the fateful night. A Gaibana Namaze Janazah was also held at Daulatkhan in Bhola where President Ershad joined thousands of people. The president went there to see for himself the extent of damage caused by the cyclone in the area. The Bangladesh Air Force also arranged a Gaibana Namaze Janazah at the Kurmitola central mosque today.

President Hussain Mohammad Ershad continued his tour of the tidal flood and cyclone-affected areas of the country's coastal belt for the 3d day today when he visited Monporah, (Char Chashan), and Daulatkhan upazilas [subdistricts] in Bhola District. On his arrival at Monporah, thousands of people rushed to the president and narrated their woes and sufferings in the tidal bore and cyclone that hit the island along with other coastal districts of the country on Friday night. President Ershad listened to them patiently and assured them of all possible help from the government for the rehabilitation of those [words indistinct] calamity will be taken (?on a war footing). The president carried with him relief materials including saris, lungies [men's wear] chira, gur [foodstuff], biscuits, and matchboxes for the affected people. He also distributed some cash relief among the cyclone victims. The president sanctioned 2,000 maunds of rice and (?3,000) maunds of [word indistinct] for immediate distribution among the affected people; 650 maunds of rice already reached the island and the rest will be sent there soon. A naval medical team has also reached the island to provide medicare to the cyclone victims.

Addressing a spontaneous gathering, President Ershad urged the people to face the situation with faith in almighty Allah, patience, and determination as they had done on many previous occasions. He said the government will do everything possible to mitigate their suffering and rehabilitate them properly. He assured the gathering that the relief will be provided until their rehabilitation. He urged the farmers to recultivate their lands to cover up the loss sustained in the cyclone and said the government will provide them with necessary inputs to achieve this objective. The president said his government will make all possible efforts for the development of Monporah upazila and assured the people that the communication system of the island will be improved. President Ershad announced 2 lakh taka as house building grant, 5 lakh taka for the reconstruction of the high school, 50,000 taka

for the reconstruction of the madrasah [muslim religious school], and 1 lakh taka for the mosque.

Floods in Two Districts

*BK290338 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
29 May 85*

[Text] Bangladesh has appealed for massive international aid for the survivors of the devastating cyclone. President Ershad says his country would require an assistance of at least \$50 million. Meanwhile, floods in Comilla and Sylhet Districts have brought fresh disasters to the country, where, according to unofficial reports, 40,000 people died and thousands were missing following Friday's cyclone. The deputy commissioner of the two districts said about two lakh residents have fled to higher ground leaving all their belongings. Many of them were provided with makeshift shelters in nearby towns.

Meanwhile, relief and rescue operations continue on a well footing in the cyclone-affected areas. Five naval ships and helicopters have been pressed into service near the worst affected Sandwip Island. More than 2,000 people have been rescued so far from the sea. The UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, has expressed sorrow over the calamity. In a message to the Bangladesh president, he assured him of all possible help from the UN disaster relief committee.

As already reported, India has offered medicine, medical personnel, and food to help the victims. The U.S. Government has announced five lakh dollars for Bangladesh and the International Committee of the Red Cross to help the cyclone victims. The Indian Red Cross Society has offered over 1.2 million Bangladesh taka: for the construction of houses for the affected people. The Communist Party of India is sending a check of 10,000 rupees to the prime minister's relief fund as a token of solidarity with the people of Bangladesh. The West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu has expressed his deep anguish at the devastation and staggering loss of life in the recent Bangladesh cyclone.

Chinese leaders have expressed sympathy with Bangladesh's flood victims. In a message to the Bangladesh president, the Chinese president, Mr Li Xiannian, and the premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang, have expressed distress over the heavy damage to life and property by the cyclone.

'Official Sources' on Death Toll

BK290701 Dhaka BSS in English 0646 GMT 29 May 85

[Excerpt] Dhaka, May 29 (BSS) — Fourteen hundred people were killed in tidal surge and cyclonic storm that swept over an area of 16 sub-districts in the coastal belt and off shore islands on Friday last, an official source said here yesterday. Briefing newsmen, Lt Col Mustaque said another 421 people mostly fishermen in the affected areas were reported missing. Meanwhile, the government yesterday observed national mourning day as a mark of respect to the calamity-stricken people.

Foreign Secretary Bhandari Leaves for Sri Lanka
*BK281511 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service
in English 1447 GMT 28 May 85*

[Text] A spokesman, while briefing the press on 28 May 1985, stated that Romesh Bhandari, foreign secretary, left this afternoon by a special air craft for Sri Lanka. Before leaving for Sri Lanka, the foreign secretary met Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi this morning.

Longowal Says Akalis Advocate Hindu-Sikh Unity
*BK290901 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
29 May 85*

[Text] The Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has said that his party has always remained the champion of Hindu-Sikh unity and will maintain it at all cost. Addressing a meeting at Longowal, his native village near Amritsar, he urged his party workers to remain vigilant against those indulging in any kind of destructive activity.

The National Sikh Youth Federation has said the need of the hour is to isolate the extremists. In a press release in New Delhi today, the federation says that the feelings should be propagated that the common Sikh has nothing to do with the heinous activities of the extremists.

Amritsar Police Arrest 5 Alleged Terrorists
*BK280346 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
28 May 85*

[Text] In Amritsar, the police have arrested five alleged terrorists during a routine check on the outskirts of the city on Sunday night. According to an official spokesman, some of them were wanted by the police for long. During preliminary interrogation they have confessed to have committed a number of terrorist activities, including the killing of seven innocent persons and injuring another five at (Chehratta) during June last year. Arms and ammunition have been seized from their possession.

Meanwhile strict vigil continues all through the state to effectively maintain law and order.

Consignment of Enriched Uranium From France
HK250816 Hong Kong AFP in English 0802 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 25 (AFP) — A consignment of about 10 tonnes of enriched uranium for the Tarapur nuclear power

station near Bombay has arrived in India from France, the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) agency reported today.

UNI said the fuel was brought in six special high-pressure cylinders covered with protective packing. Each cylinder contained 1,600 kilogrammes (3,520 pounds) of fuel.

The consignment was flown into the southern city of Hyderabad yesterday, UNI said, quoting sources in Air India, which carried the consignment.

The fuel, after off-loading, was taken in trucks amidst tight security to the nuclear fuel complex near Hyderabad, where the fuel is to be processed and sent to Tarapur, the report said.

An Indo-French agreement on the supply of nuclear fuel was reached in November 1982.

The agreement provides for fuel to be supplied throughout the life of the Tarapur plant, and for the exchange of unclassified information relating to research and development, including advanced technology for the use of plutonium.

The agreement marked the beginning of closer ties between the two countries in nuclear energy and gave a new lease of life to the fuel-starved Tarapur plant.

The two reactors at the Tarapur plant were built by the General Electric Company of the United States under an Indo-U.S. agreement signed in 1963, which committed the United States to providing enriched uranium fuel until 1993.

But the fuel supplies became erratic after an Indian nuclear weapon test in 1974.

Supplies dried up altogether in 1981 as India refused to agree to safeguards demanded by the United States.

2 killed by 'Unidentified Miscreants' in Punjab
*BK290715 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
26 May 85*

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were killed and two seriously injured when three unidentified miscreants fired at them in a village near Ludhiana late last night. The assassins who were on a scooter escaped after the incident. The police have launched a massive hunt for the culprit.

UN's Cordovez Leaves Islamabad for Kabul

*BK281104 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
28 May 85*

[Text] The UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, left Islamabad today for Kabul on the second leg of his current visit to the area. As already reported, his visit is aimed at finding a political solution of the Afghanistan problem.

Noorani: Progress in Afghan Talks

*BK280701 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT
28 May 85*

[Text] Minister of State for External Affairs Zain Noorani informed the National Assembly during question time this morning that there is enough [kaafi] progress in connection with the indirect talks on Afghanistan. He said, however, the Karmal administration has not shown any interest in solving this problem through negotiations in accordance with the desire of the Afghan peoples. He reiterated that Pakistan would continue its efforts to find a political settlement of this problem through negotiations which would be acceptable to the Afghan people, because it is quite sure that the problem cannot be solved militarily. Mr Zain Noorani said that National Assembly members will be taken into confidence on the policy on Afghanistan.

Karachi Situation Peaceful, Curfew Relaxed

*BK281526 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
28 May 85*

[Text] A press note was released by the Karachi West District magistrate which said that the situation in the curfew-bound areas of the district remained peaceful today and no untoward incident was reported. The press note added that in view of the improved situation, it was decided to relax the curfew restrictions from 0600 to 0800 and again from 1600 to 1800 daily.

Sind Minister Pledges Steps for Law, Order

*BK290619 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
29 May 85*

[Text] Sind Chief Minister Ghaus Ali Shah has said that the government will take all steps to maintain law and order in the province. Talking to [words indistinct], he said stern measures are being taken against striking transport workers. The strike had already been declared illegal, and now action would be taken according to the law. He assured that full protection will be provided to those who ply their vehicles on roads. Answering a question, the chief minister said persons involved in recent disturbances and violence are being identified. Those who have already been identified and are absconding would be arrested.

An official handout issued in Karachi last night says 50 persons have been arrested for disturbing law and order in the Orangi township last Saturday and Sunday. During the hearing, 38 of these persons were found guilty of these crimes and were given different sentences.

Foreign Ministry Comments on Soviet Incident

GF251430 Karachi DAWN in English 21 May 85 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, May 20 — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Monday communicated to the Soviet ambassador Pakistan's reply to the Soviet protest regarding the incident in Matanni near Peshawar.

The Pakistan reply stated that the incident in Matanni had been caused by agents provocateur from Afghanistan who infiltrated the area and resorted to firing on refugees in Pakistan. The explosives in the possession of the agents detonated during the skirmish, in which all the agents, along with a number of refugees, lost their lives.

None of the agents provocateur were known to be Soviet servicemen, and investigations had shown that there were no Soviet servicemen on Pakistan soil, the statement added.

The Soviet protest which had been conveyed to the Pakistan ambassador in Moscow on May 8, alleged that 12 Soviet servicemen had been killed in the Matanni incident, and that Pakistan Army units had participated in the incident. The Soviets had also asked for the return of Soviet servicemen who were on Pakistan soil.

In rejecting the Soviet protest, the Pakistan reply pointed out that unsubstantiated press reports had been made the basis for Soviet allegations and concluded by reiterating Pakistan's desire for the maintenance and improvement of bilateral relations with the Soviet Union.

It may be recalled that both the Karmal regime and the Soviet Government had lodged separate protests with Islamabad, alleging that 24 Soviet and Afghan prisoners were killed during the incident, which took place on April 27.

The Soviet version of the incident said that the soldiers, who were captured by Afghan mujahidin and transported across the border into Pakistan, were being held at a camp at Zangali, some distance from Peshawar. The camp was also being used as an ammunition dump. When the prisoners succeeded in taking over the camp and demanded to be handed over to the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad, the dump was blown up, killing all the 24 men, of whom 12 were reportedly Afghans and the rest Soviets.

The Soviet ambassador in Pakistan, Mr Vitaliy A. Smirnov, stated that Pakistani defence personnel, not just mujahidin, were involved in the incident. He claimed that the Soviets had all the details, even the names of the persons involved in the shooting. He demanded that the bodies of the dead men should be handed over to Soviet officials.

Pakistan had not till Monday issued any official comment on the allegation, though foreign news agencies quoted government officials as denying the existence of Soviet prisoners in Pakistan and claiming that one person died in a skirmish between rival groups of mujahidin.

A report by the U.S. news agency ASSOCIATED PRESS published last week quoted Afghan guerrilla sources in Peshawar

as saying that scores of Soviet soldiers and pilots captured by the mujahidin in Afghanistan were being held and interrogated inside Pakistan "with the knowledge of the Pakistan Government".

Senior mujahidin and other Afghan sources are said to have told AP, in interviews given on condition of anonymity, that guerrillas had been bringing Soviet prisoners across the border since 1981.

Officials Capture Iranian 'Outlaws' in Sarawan

GF281932 Karachi DAWN in English 26 May 85 p 2

[Excerpts] Karachi, May 25: The two accused who allegedly rescued five Iranian outlaws when they surprised the staff of the Central Prison Machh on Thursday were shot dead in an encounter with law enforcing agencies in the Sarawan hills on Friday.

They were identified by the officials and members of the Central Prison staff as Allah Bakhsh and Gulf Khan. They contacted the jail authorities and sought permission to meet the five Iranian outlaws and later shot dead two jail wardens and freed the said inmates.

The authorities have seized an AK-47 Soviet-made rifle, two 303 guns and a handgrenade close to their bodies. A member of the Sibi Scouts was killed and a levyman (rural police) was injured in the gun battle with the Iranian outlaws.

The law enforcing agencies, headed by senior officials of the Machh Sub-Division, cordoned off the entire hilly tracks, where the armed encounter took place.

All the escape routes from the Johan hills in Sarawan area were closed and armed guards were placed on high alert to block their escape to Jhalawan hills.

Three of the Iranian outlaws were involved in a number of cases of murder, holdups, dacoities and robberies in Mekran and in Iran.

DAWN: Economic Survey Shows Higher Growth

GF261406 Karachi DAWN in English 22 May 85 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, May 21 — Pakistan's economy during the first nine months of the current year grew at the rate of 8.4 per cent, according to Pakistan Economic Survey 1984-85 released here today.

While discussing the salient features of the Survey at a Press conference, Dr. Arshad Zaman, Economic Adviser, Federal Finance Ministry, conceded that the growth rate for the year appeared very high mainly because it was computed on a very low base of 3.5 per cent obtained last year and to some extent also due to an unquantifiable effect of foreign debts.

The Survey admits that the "growth in production", however, could not be translated into higher exports, or into higher public revenue.

The GNP grew at the rate of 7.3 per cent during the first nine months of the current year compared to 2.96 per cent by the end of March 1985, bank credit for budget support, that is deficit financing, reached Rs. 11,423 million compared to full-year target of about Rs. 5,800 million while net foreign assets had declined by Rs. 7,248 million.

According to the survey, the average rate of inflation based on consumer prices during July-March 1984-85 over July-March 1983-84 was 7.3 per cent compared to 8.9 per cent during the same period last year.

The growth in manufacturing at 8.6 per cent, however, fell short of both targets and long-term trends, as production of cotton yarn and cloth fell by 7.4 per cent and 12.6 per cent, respectively.

Despite 9.9 per cent growth in agriculture, the production of crops was adversely affected by a shortage of water owing to drought conditions, shortage of canal water and scarcity of tubewell water and, therefore, wheat production at 11 million tons was adversely affected for the second successive year as was sugarcane production at 33 million tons which was 3.9 per cent below previous year's level.

According to the Survey, while the low level of savings in Pakistan is widely acknowledged, doubts have been expressed regarding reliability of estimates, because of the methods employed in estimating the various concepts of savings.

Taking household savings rate at 10 per cent of GNP, the total national savings rate for 1983-84 has been computed at 13.4 per cent of GNP. This suggests that the investment level being used in the existing national income-expenditure accounts is understated by about one per cent of GNP, the Survey said.

The nation's expenditure on consumption and investment amounted to Rs. 527 billion against a national income of Rs. 516 billion, the difference being financed by foreign borrowings.

Of the total, investment expenditure amounted to Rs. 83 billion, as against Rs. 72 billion last year. Almost 72 per cent of this investment was financed by national savings.

Identifying three main causes for the unprecedented budgetary pressures, the Survey said that in May 1984 the Government raised the holding period of higher denomination price from one month to two months. This resulted in a net outflow under the scheme of Rs. 262 million during July-March 1984-85.

Secondly, the devaluation of the rupee resulted in substantial increase in current rupee expenditure on debt servicing and on subsidies for imported items like edible oil, fertilisers and petroleum.

Finally, there was a slight shortfall in tax revenues and an increase in non-obligatory grants to the provinces to cover election expenditure, the distribution cost of wheat and higher-than-anticipated expenditure by provinces on education and debt service payments to the Federal Government.

The deficit on current account increased from 1,031 million dollars in 1983-84 to 1,635 million dollars in 1984-85. With net foreign capital inflow of 1,012 million dollars a drawdown of 623 million dollars is expected against 86 million dollars last year. As a result, gross foreign exchange reserves had fallen to 833 million dollars on March 31, 1985, and were equivalent to 1.6 months of imports.

Exports fell for the second time in 15 years and are estimated at 2,633 million dollars in 1984-85, 1.3 per cent lower than the previous year, and some 21 per cent below the target of 3,314 million dollars.

At the same time, workers' remittances fell for the second successive year to 2,450 million dollars from about 2,740 million dollars in 1983-84.

On the other hand, imports rose by 3.7 per cent to 6,612 million dollars in response to demand from raw materials and capital goods generated by a growing economy.

The net external capital inflows increased from 984 million dollars to about 1,012 million dollars during the current fiscal year.

Debt servicing obligations ranging from 9 per cent to 11 per cent of exports of goods and services since 1977-78 stood at 11.3 per cent in 1984-85.

Pakistan's total medium and long-term debt, disbursed and outstanding, amounted to 10.1 billion dollars as of Dec 31, 1984, compared to 6.3 billion dollars at the end of 1977, and with additional borrowing this year, this figure is likely to reach 10.6 billion dollars by June 30, 1985.

With a rapid rise in energy consumption and growth of the economy, energy shortages have arisen, especially those in winters. The Survey lists a number of steps which the government is taking to remedy the situation. These include an increase in domestic oil extraction during the first nine months of this year to 6.5 million barrels from 3.5 million barrels in the same period last year.

Islamisation of the economy, the Survey said, went apace during the current year. The system of Zakat [compulsory Islamic charity] and Ushr [tithing] is now firmly in place. The end of the year will also mark implementation of the final phase of a series of measure to eliminate un-Islamic practices from the financial sector of the economy. Both domestic and international financial circles have received the new system with enthusiasm.

The Survey points out that since the Government's financial and administrative resources are limited, the present Government is trying to put together a system which exploits the relative strength of both the private and the public sectors. A smaller but more effective public sector will continue to look after strategic industries and concentrate more intensively on the provision of social services like education, health, supplying potable water etc.

Virtually the entire population, says the Survey, enjoys a consumption level which, while low by comparison to richer coun-

tries, is nevertheless adequate to meet the minimal levels of nutrition and to provide for the basic necessities of life. A large proportion of the poor, who manage to maintain minimum consumption levels, however seems to do so by supplementing their incomes by borrowing or drawing on such savings as they have. Although the extent of deprivation, therefore, is probably negligible, the government is not complacent about the need to alleviate poverty.

This success will depend on maintaining a high growth with equitable income distribution, controlling inflation and providing suitable employment opportunities and public services.

Estimating Pakistan's population at 95 million, the Survey says the annual growth is three per cent — up from 2.4 per cent in the decade of 1951-61. The increase has been caused by a decline in the birth rate, but a much sharper decline in the death rate.

The literacy remains stagnant at 26 per cent which it says is "the greatest failure of the public policy in Pakistan." Greater attempts are now under way to improve the situation. More rapid expansion of the health services is planned, as well as that of the housing, as three million houses are immediately needed.

"The task of future policy is to bring about a major reform of prices, subsidies, taxation and incentives, in order to promote domestic savings, encourage exports and investment, and foster a pattern of growth which raises agricultural productivity, and provides for employment generally in an export-oriented industry, so as to yield both greater exports and higher government revenues," says the Survey.

This can only be done if expenditure is brought in line with income, for the public sector and the nation as a whole. This will not be an easy task, nor will this be accomplished swiftly.

Punjab MRD Criticizes New 1985 Budget Plan

GF281431 Karachi DAWN in English 25 May 85 p 10

[Text] Lahore, May 24: On Thursday, the Economic Committee of the Punjab MRD on the 1985 Budget has described the new budget as essentially an IMF document designed for Third World countries that have mortgaged their national sovereignty to their creditors.

A statement issued here Friday by the Punjab MRD Economic Committee, comprising Mr Salman Taseer and Rao Abdul Rashid, pointed out salient features which are "in the classic IMF pattern".

It said import liberalisation had been promised, which would open up our markets to Western goods thereby destroying indigenous industry. "When we are already in a balance of trade deficit, why are these measures necessary?" it asked.

The statement said withdrawal of subsidies would affect the most deprived segments of our society. While the finance minister had earmarked fertilizer, wheat and food subsidies, cement prices had been left to market forces and would rise soon.

The Budget would lead to further depreciation of the currency to facilitate repatriation of investment and profits to Western investors.

According to the statement, the 1985 Budget has been announced at a time when the country is passing through its worst economic crisis since the secession of Bangladesh. Citing the fall in value of the rupee, the severely lopsided balance of trade, crop failures, power shortage and rising foreign debt, the statement continues: "And yet, never once during his Budget speech did Dr Mahbubul Haq acknowledge the economic mess that this regime has created. He displayed the same Alice in Wonderland-like euphoria that marked the ill-fated 6th Five-Year Plan, which was another of his creations."

Saying that we must be free to forge policies best suited to our own interests, the MRD committee challenges "this regime to make public the conditionality clauses of the recent IMF loan of \$2.1 billion. Once these clauses are exposed, then the entire thinking behind this Budget will be apparent for all to see. It is our contention that these clauses make mockery of our status as an independent nation as they control every aspect of our socio-economic fabric."

As evidence of subservience to the IMF the statement cites following Budgetary features: import liberalisation; withdrawal of subsidies on certain commodities, which will affect the most deprived segments of society; depreciation of the currency; increase in regressive indirect taxation; and structural legislation to encourage the production of primary commodities as against manufactured goods.

The decision to disinvest shares in the public sector will have serious socio-economic ramifications, the statement continues.

The MRD committee feels that Dr Mahbubul Haq plans to establish finance companies in the private sector. "Perhaps he could explain why this regime allowed the proliferation of finance companies in 1980, which milked nearly Rs 30 crore from thousands of poor and middle class investors and were then suddenly shut down?" it asks.

While welcoming the concept of linking fixed income to the inflation rate, the statement adds: However, the government inflation figures of around 8 per cent are suspect. A recent report by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics calculated on a realistic basket of goods that inflation was 14 per cent. An

independent commission should be appointed to calculate this figure, as it will have an important impact on limited income groups."

NAWA-E WAQT Discusses New Federal Budget

GF281928 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 25 May 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The Federal Budget — Some Reflections on its Corrective Measures!"]

[Excerpts] The budget presented by Finance Minister Dr Mahbubul Haq is in his words neither a deficit nor a surplus one. According to him it is a savings budget which might even show a slight surplus at the end of the fiscal year.

The people whose salaries have been increased will rejoice for a while, but with the simultaneous rise in gas, rail tickets, electricity, and fuel rates the good effect will become insignificant as the repercussions of the price increase will surface, as will a coinciding increase in prices and cost of production. Only then will it transpire whether the rise in salaries is in proportion to the increase in prices. The demand for a raise is in order to counteract a price rise which if not forthcoming is double trouble.

The concessions in the field of taxes are aimed at providing relief to the fixed income group and at increasing industrial and agricultural production. But there is a feeling that this is limited to producing canned goods, for which the Middle Eastern countries have a vast market. An important feature of the budget is the "laundering" of black money. This is not as radical a step as the finance minister is saying it is, because black money is not locked up in safes nor kept in banks; it is also maintained in the form of real estate or shares.

The only redeeming feature of the new budget is that after such a long time, this fact has been acknowledged that income does not increase with increase in taxes; in fact it creates more problems for the national economy and finance including the issue of black money. In order to fill the laguna created in the income department it has been decided to sell shares worth thousands of millions pertaining to government industrial units. Whatever the advantages attributed to this policy, it is tantamount to eating up the capital in economic terms. In other words, the taxes imposed on the people some years ago to keep the government-sponsored industrial units running are now to be used to provide some relief to the taxpayers.

NEPAL

Home Minister on 'Law And Order Situation'

BK251623 Katmandu External Service in English 1445 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Home Minister Jog Mehar Shrestha has said that his majesty's government will not remain a passive spectator to any sinister attempts of disturbing the law and order situation and undermining the political status of the country. Minister Shrestha was speaking as a chief guest at a function organized by the (?musical) club at (Javri) in Katmandu today.

Stating that the government is always firm on protecting the rights of the people and maintaining law and order in the country, he said that the people on their part should shun any unconstitutional and illegal activity. If anyone indulges in unconstitutional and illegal activities without paying (? attention) to this fact, then the government would be compelled to take action against such persons, he said. Nowhere in the world is an attempt [words indistinct] existing political system allowed, he pointed out. [Words indistinct] believed in class coordination and in class conflicts, he said, adding that the door of this democratic policy is open to all and everyone can contribute (?one's might) to national development under the (?system).

He also called on all to work with a sense of mutual understanding and reconciliation on national development. The motto of the international youth year — peace, development and participation — is very timely, he said, and urged the youth to be engaged in constructive work with [words indistinct].

Stating that both public and private institutions can contribute a lot in national development by launching constructive programs, the home minister said that in Nepal, the birthplace of Lord Buddha, peace is essential for development.

SRI LANKA

New Indian High Commissioner Presents Credentials

BK271241 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] The new Indian high commissioner to Sri Lanka, J.N. Dixit, presented his credentials to President Jayewardene this morning at President's House. Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed and the secretary to the President, (W.M.P.B. Manekdewalot), were present on the occasion.

High Commissioner Meets Jayewardene

BK271643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] India's new high commissioner to Sri Lanka, Mr J.N. Dixit, presented his credentials to President Jayewardene in Colombo today. Later, he had talks with Mr Jayewardene for about half an hour.

Mr Dixit told newsmen that President Jayewardene assured full support and cooperation in nurturing the relations between the two countries. Mr Jayewardene said that the two countries have such close and historical relations that they can never part.

Meanwhile, according to an agency report, more than 40 Tamil militants were killed in Sri Lanka by the security forces during the last 2 weeks. Official sources confirmed in Colombo today that six encounters took place with the militants during the period. At least 13 members of the security forces have also been killed in these clashes.

'Tough' Anti-Terrorist Law To Be Introduced

HK290946 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 29 (AFP) — The government is about to introduce a new tough anti-terrorist act prescribing the death penalty and lengthy prison sentences for a wide range of terrorist-related acts, it was announced today.

State Minister for Information Anandadissa de Alwis, said the new law would be essentially the same as a new anti-terrorist law in India, which took effect Friday.

The Indian law gives courts the power to impose the death penalty for terrorist acts resulting in loss of life, and provides for jail sentences from five years to life for any person committing terrorist acts which do not result in loss of life.

The severity of the Indian law drew wide criticism in Sri Lanka, where one of the main demands of the country's 2.5 million Tamil minority has been the repeal of the country's existing "prevention of terrorism" act.

The Tamils have said the act, with its provision for 90 days' detention without trial, has been widely abused.

Official records show that although the death penalty has been handed down in Sri Lanka recently no-one has been executed since 1977.

Neelan Tiruchelvam, the only Tamil separatist party politician still in Colombo, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE immediately after today's announcement that "it comes as a shock, especially at this time."

He said the announcement was "not an effective response to our requests on the issue" and that the current prevention of terrorism laws already gave the security forces arbitrary and indiscriminate powers.

Mr. Tiruchelvam, himself a lawyer, said he would need time to study the difference between the existing law and the new law to be able to comment on what it would mean in practical terms.

"We had hoped that with the visit of the special envoy from India (Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari) and optimism expressed in the press about efforts towards de-escalation that there would be moves towards a political process rather than an enhancing of the powers of the security apparatus," he said.

Mr. Bhandari arrived here last night for top-level talks on the possibility of a summit meeting between President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi next month.

Dr. de Alwis told journalists today after a regular weekly cabinet meeting that a summit meeting between Mr. Jayewardene and Mr. Gandhi would definitely take place in India before June 5, when Mr. Gandhi is due to leave for the United States.

He said the meeting would be held in India but declined to comment on reports that the site would be the Kerala state capital of Trivandrum.

Separatist Trained in India; Bhandari Arrives

HK281514 Hong Kong AFP in English 1440 GMT 28 May 85

[By Kate Webb]

[Text] Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, May 28 (AFP) — A young Tamil separatist terrorist taken prisoner in the country's eastern provinces last March said today he had been trained for three months in a camp in southern India.

The 27-year-old prisoner, who gave his name as Rosalingham Mahendra, said he had been captured by Special Task Force (STF) troops after standing guard while four of his colleagues killed five Tamils believed to be government informers.

Two of the victims were women, two men and one a 12-year-old boy. He said all five were beaten to death with poles.

Mr. Mahendra was interviewed by representatives of seven foreign news organizations including AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in the presence of STF officers at a police camp outside Batticaloa.

The officers also showed a video-cassette recording made by terrorists belonging to TELO (the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization), one of several Tamil separatist groups fighting for an independent Tamil State in Sri Lanka.

The tape showed TELO recruits undergoing training in a camp in India, but the location was not clear.

The officers said it had been picked up in the past few days in a video cassette shop which was selling it openly for home viewing.

Mr. Mahendra, a tailor before he became a terrorist, showed livid scars and a disfigured right arm caused by what he said was a day-long beating shortly after his imprisonment.

He said he had left for the training camp in Theni, southern India by boat late in 1984.

However, he was unable to pinpoint the location of the camp or of Theni, other than saying it was a day's drive from the city of Madras.

Mr. Mahendra said he was trained in the use of a 303 rifle and a shotgun and also received political indoctrination given by members of the Peoples' Liberation Organization for Tamil Eelam (PLOT).

He said he was excused more rigorous physical training because of a weak chest and returned to Batticaloa via the northern Sri Lankan city of Jaffna as a fully fledged member of the military arm of PLOT.

Once home he said he operated largely out of his tailor's shop "helping establish a socialist independent state of Tamil Eelam".

The show of evidence of training camps in India came as Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari flew into Colombo for talks with President Jayewardene.

Diplomatic and government sources have said that the talks, scheduled to start tomorrow, could pave the way for a summit meeting between the president and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on the possibility of a political solution to the escalating ethnic violence in Sri Lanka.

Though talks with India are considered crucial to any political solution, relations between the two countries have been troubled by Colombo's charges that New Delhi is turning a blind eye to the training camps.

India denies the charges and for its part has been urging Colombo to grant Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority more local government rights possibly including internal security.

Authoritative sources told AFP today that they believed any such summit would be held in the Indian state of Kerala and not in New Delhi, but only if prior groundwork determined that something substantive would come out of the meeting and it was "not just show".

Arrested Tamil Youths Linked to Smugglers

BK281150 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Twenty-seven Tamil youths arrested last week on suspicion of involvement in an attack on a police station have been found to be members of a gold and narcotics smuggling ring with links in India, Pakistan, and possibly Singapore.

Police sources say that the 27 youths were found to be part of a ring that smuggled narcotics from Pakistan and sold it in Colombo to tourists and local addicts. They then bought gold with the proceeds and smuggled the gold to India, where the police believed it was used to fund terrorist groups operating in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka police are in contact with the Singapore police through Interpol about possible connections which the group may have with Tamils smuggling gold from Singapore to India.

MUSLIM: U.S. 'Confused' on Hostages in Lebanon
LD281959 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Islamabad, May 28 IRNA — The English daily *MUSLIM* said today that the Reagan administration has lost its control and has become confused over the taking hostage of four Americans in Lebanon as America was during the captivity of its embassy staff in Tehran during the Carter's Administration.

It said that the American officials have been unable to cope with this issue and despite his massive propaganda campaign, Reagan is disappointed like Carter.

Tehran Notes U.S. Threats

GF280810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 May 85

[Unattributed commentary: "Recent Threats by the United States in the Region"]

[Excerpts] During recent days, imperialist media have been carrying out widespread and extensive propaganda concerning the problem of U.S. and French hostages in Lebanon and the possible retaliatory attacks by the United States against selected, sensitive targets in Iran.

What is worth noting about this propaganda adventure is that leading U.S. officials have given a clear opinion about this matter. The news started in this way: according to U.S. officials, President Reagan is prepared to issue an order to bomb selected targets in Iran if U.S. hostages are killed by the terrorist members of the Islamic Jihad Organization.

However, it was not clear who or at what level had made this statement. The U.S. State Department spokesman refrained from making a direct statement about this and other more detailed news on this matter, but did not deny such news. He added that the United States will take serious actions against any terrorist activities which are backed by a government.

However it is completely obvious that this informal threat, which this time the rulers of the U.S. Government do not have the courage to formally make, is not the first time the threat has been made nor will it be the last.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been continuously faced with such threats ever since its creation. Such threats culminated in the U.S. military attack on Tabas which ended in a disastrous defeat. A recent statement by the spokesman for the Islamic Republic's Foreign Ministry says that the U.S. problems in Lebanon and the problem of the kidnapping of a number of U.S. citizens in Beirut are rooted in the aggressive policies of the United States in various parts of the world. The increased awareness of the people in these regions has been intensified against this aggression.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman denied the Islamic Republic's involvement in such incidents. He emphasized it has been proven that a U.S. spy organization was directly ordered by the White House to bomb the Bi'r al-'Abd Mosque in Beirut which caused

death or injury to more than 400 innocent people in Lebanon. This act has been strongly condemned by world opinion and even by the people of United States. In fact it is one of hundreds of criminal activities carried out by the United States. Therefore it is understandable why Zionist propaganda affiliated with the United States and officials of this country every so often condemn Iran as the protector of terrorists.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that this is based on undeniable facts which imperialist propaganda intends to destroy.

In fact the root of the problem is the United States itself. The foreign policies of the United States and the failure of them abroad have forced the U.S. politicians to launch new adventures and useless boasting in order to remove any seed of doubt in connection with [words indistinct]. It is obvious that this method of dealing with problems might fool the people of the United States, but it will not deceive the aware people of this region.

In connection with this matter, the prime minister of the Islamic Republic, Engineer Musavi, said that the United States cannot do a damn thing about these threats or through other actions. We have many times punched the United States in the mouth and we are ready to do this once again over the world. The United States must know that we are able to turn the Persian Gulf into a quicksand for them to drown in.

The speaker of the Majlis, Hojjat ol-Islam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, during a general session announced that we once more warn the United States and we are telling the people and the allies of the United States that it will achieve the same results from these threats as it did from the previous ones.

God forbid, the day that our ports become targets for aggression by these international criminals, you can be sure that not even one ship will be able anchor in any of the Persian Gulf ports and there will be no port left to accept such ships. If such a day comes, any responsibility for any crisis following this will be with the great satan. The Islamic Republic will defend itself.

Khamene'i Hears Security Council Annual Report

LD281733 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28 IRNA — The Security Council of Iran held a session here Tuesday [28 May] in the presence of President 'Ali Khamene'i and presented him its annual report. The president gave guidelines with regards to the issues brought forth.

Present in the session were minister of the interior, 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri; chief of staff of the Armed Forces, Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi; commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, Mohsen Reza'ei; commander of the Committees of the Islamic Revolution, Hojjat ol-Islam Saleh, and other members of the council.

Khomeyni Appoints Election Representative

*LD261135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
26 May 85*

[Text] Following an edict issued by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Mohammad 'Ali Sadduqi has been appointed to the Supervisory Headquarters for the election of three members of the Supreme Judicial Council. The text of the edict issued by the imam of the ummah is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

His excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Mohammad 'Ali Sadduqi, may your virtues be everlasting. Your excellency, you are being appointed by me as my representative to the Supervisory Headquarters for the election of three members of the Supreme Judicial Council to supervise the procedures of this election in accordance with the regulations. May God grant you success; 26 May, 1985.

[signed] Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni.

Velayati Sends Message to Syria on Lebanon

LD271656 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Damascus, May 27, IRNA — In a written message to Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', the Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati expressed the "concern of the Islamic Republic of Iran over recent fightings between the Palestinian and Lebanese Muslims in Beirut".

Fighting between Palestinian factions and the Amal militiamen throughout the past week has left hundreds dead and wounded in the Lebanese capital.

The message was given to Mr. al-Shar' by the Political Director General of Iran's Foreign Ministry Mohammad Lavasani in Damascus Monday.

The message stressed the need for Muslim Forces unity vis-a-vis the Zionists.

Lavasani arrived in Damascus Saturday and has expressed Iran's concern over the situation in Lebanon in a meeting with the Syrian minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, Isam Al-Na'ib.

The ambassador of the Islamic Republic was present at both meetings.

Lavasani Meets Syrian Officials

LD261857 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT 26 May 85

[Text] Damascus, May 26, IRNA — Iranian and Syrian Foreign Ministry officials Sunday expressed concern over the week long battle between Palestinian and Lebanese militias in Beirut and said all Muslim forces should mobilize their power against the Zionists.

Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, the political director general of the Islamic Republic of Iran Foreign Ministry, and 'Isam Al-Na'ib, the Syrian minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, met in Damascus to discuss the Lebanese developments and the ongoing conflict.

Lavasani arrived in Damascus Monday with a message from the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, for his Syrian counterpart Faruq al-Shar'.

He told the Syrian official that the Islamic Republic was ready to utilise all its means for the unity of the Muslims and for a halt to the Lebanon killings.

Both sides emphasised the need to halt the killings and said the power of the Lebanese and the Palestinians should be used against the Zionists.

They also said the armed struggle of the Lebanese had brought about a new method of struggle and had drawn a line over political solutions.

Velayati Sends Message to UAE Minister

LD291945 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — In a message to the U.A.E. minister of state for foreign affairs, Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi today the Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati said the Iraqi ruler aims at turning the Persian Gulf states against Iran.

Velayati's message which was delivered to the U.A.E. minister by his deputy Shams Ardakani in Abu Dhabi today said by air raiding and missileing civilian towns and cities in Iran the Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn means to complicate the situation and prevent friendly moves between the countries of the region and Iran.

In response the U.A.E. minister expressed pleasure at receiving Dr. Velayati's message and emphasized on joint efforts for compliance with the dictates of Islam by all Muslim states and the safeguarding of common values against the world imperialism and Zionism. he also expressed pleasure with the recently friendly moves between the Islamic Republic and the United Arab Emirates.

Envoy Discusses Iraq With UAE Regional Rulers

*GF261914 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 26 May 85*

[Text] Brother [name indistinct], Iranian ambassador to the UAE, yesterday met with 'Ajman ruler Shaykh Hamad ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, and Al-Sharjah ruler Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad Al-Qasimi.

During his meeting with the ruler of 'Ajman the ambassador explained the crimes committed by the Saddam regime during the imposed war against the Arab citizens in Khuzestan and stressed the need to repel the aggressor so that the roots of

aggression can be eradicated. He said that the call for peace and reconciliation is now erupting everywhere, especially since Saddam is now acting from a weak position. We find that all [word indistinct] war, but nobody is [word indistinct] aggression. The ambassador added: We also (?hate) the war, but it is very useful for eliminating aggression and the aggressor.

'Ajman ruler Shaykh Hamad ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi referred to the fraternal relations existing between the two countries, stressing the need to consolidate and develop these relations in various fields.

During his meeting with Al-Shariqah ruler, the ambassador explained the principles and objectives of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the care given by Islamic Iran to its relations with the neighboring Islamic countries. He said that Saddam wants to link his destiny with the destiny of Arabs and the region's countries, and claims that all will fall after him, while everybody knows that Iran does not have ambitions for the lands or wealth of other countries. He said that the neighboring countries in the region should realize that.

The current developments in the region and the need to develop relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and all Islamic countries and the region's countries were discussed during this meeting.

FRG Minister Cancels Visit as Baghdad 'Not Safe'

LD281755 Tehran IRNA in English 1614 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — The West German Minister of Economics Walter Bangemann has cancelled his trip to Iraq because of the recent escalation in the imposed Iraqi war, according to reports reaching here today.

The German minister was to attend a German-Iraqi economic commission in Baghdad Tuesday [28 May] but changed plans because "Baghdad is not safe," a spokesman for the ministry was quoted as saying.

The commission was to review economic cooperation between Germany and Iraq.

Musavi Press Conference on Government Policies

GF281413 Tehran KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English (London Edition) 19 May 85 p 4

[Text] Tehran — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi held a televised press conference here last week attended by Iranian and foreign journalists. In this press interview, the prime minister answered a number of questions on the status of the Iraq-Iran war, UN efforts to end the war, the internal economic situation, relations with Persian Gulf states, the USSR, and France, presidential elections, the freedom movement, etc. highlights of the premier's statements follow:

The Islamic combatants of Iran are prepared to advance for the fulfillment of the legitimate rights of the Iranian nation, the establishment of justice, and to move in the path which has been

set from the very beginning. Whenever the interests of the nation deem it necessary, the Iranian forces will take the necessary initiatives in the battle fronts.

The recent stance of the UN Security Council, despite being conservative, was an indication of its moving towards reality. If the Security Council explicitly condemns the Iraqi aggression against our country, grounds would be certainly paved for our attendance in the Security Council to discuss the stance of the Islamic Republic.

Furthermore, if the Security Council moves towards following up the eight point plan proposed by the UN Secretary General Javier Peres de Cuellar, Iran would be ready to take part in Security Council proceedings.

I think despite our being involved in a war the inflation rate in our country is not even comparable with other countries in the region which are not involved with a war. Our government has scored a significant victory in checking the inflation rate. Last year (March 1984-March 1985) the inflation rate here was about 10.5 percent which is very low with respect to a war time situation...But there are other countries in which the inflation rate hits somewhere in the vicinity of 600 percent.

Another peculiarity of our economy which deserves to be heeded by others is that we have not taken loans from any foreign sources. We rank first among the Third World nations for having received no external loans. This is a source of pride to the Islamic Republic. Meanwhile we do not have any unsolvable problem in relation with our economy. Problems there are, but no so serious as to cause any major concern...

We establish our relations with Middle East countries on the basis of the interests of the Middle East nations rather than those of the superpowers. We have declared time and again that we look forward to establishing closer ties with the countries of the region, relations aimed at enhancing the growth and progress of our countries. This is especially true in relations with the Persian Gulf states, the majority of which have aligned themselves with Saddam. We have said time and again that our country has grown into the principal power in the region.

We would like them (the Persian Gulf states) to think about their own interests and their own future before thinking about the interests of the United States and other big powers in the region. Once they should heed our advice they shall have the best possible relations with us... There are countries in the region which have very friendly relations with us...

The Persian Gulf Cooperation Council is in practice at the service of the United States and has put its facilities and espionage equipment at the disposal of Iran's enemies. The council will be successful only when it places itself alongside the people of the region and becomes free from the yoke of the U.S.

As for Afghanistan our stand has always been clear cut. We are against the presence in Afghanistan of any foreign forces. We deem it our responsibility to support the aspirations of the Muslim people of Afghanistan. Today our nation is hosting almost some 1.5m Afghans. We look forward to witnessing the

return on the right of the sovereignty of Afghanistan to the Afghans. We have always made it clear that the presence in Afghanistan of Soviet troops would serve as a pretext for the United States to bolster its forces in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf.

Already the United States tends to justify its presence in the region because of the presence in Afghanistan of Soviet troops. We are of the opinion that in the meanwhile the United States reaps greater advantages than does the Soviet Union... This was and still is our stand towards the situation in Afghanistan... Our outlook is logical and in accord with the principles of our faith and I think it will continue to be our country's outlooks for all time in the future...

There is no precise information available in this respect. Every few hours the U.S. provides Iraq with information about Iranian forces, which it gathers through satellite reconnaissance. Also reactionary states in the region put the information they receive through satellites at the disposal of the Baghdad regime.

Currently we are witnessing a certain moderation in France's attitude towards us, though it is still far from being substantial... We have discussed several issues with the French government, among them a one billion dollar loan which it continues not to repay and which must be returned to us. I would like to make it clear here that as long as France has not responded to us in relation with this issue it can hardly expect any improvement in Iran-France relations...

We have also noted certain developments in France in relation with the activities of the counterrevolution. It was all too obvious from the outset that the supercilious world powers were behind them. But gradually they (the big powers) despaired of the counterrevolution in France and it is likely that the situation prompted the French government to adopt a moderate stand. We look upon this change in France's outlook as evidencing a somewhat more realistic outlook on the part of the French government. We always wondered why such countries should reach such perverted understanding (of the situation in Iran) as to count on the potential of this or that (emigre) group (in France).

The (dissident emigre) groups in France once contended that the Islamic system of government would shortly disintegrate and that they would take the reins of a new government here. We had reason to believe that the French government, as well as the U.S. government and other countries believed in the truth of such evaluations and this being their outlook, it prompted them to support the dissident (Iranian) groups... But that is now an old story.

It seems that as the counterrevolution disintegrated from within, and since they (the dissidents) failed to demonstrate any efficacy in furthering their own causes then they (France and certain foreign governments) have now reached more realistic analyses in relation with the capacity of the system of the Islamic government in Iran. In view of such developments it is only natural that we should now witness the adoption of a more moderate and flexible stand towards us by the French government, but as far as it relates to our attitude, it is precisely what I said.

We are maintaining ties within the framework of good neighborly relations. The Soviet Union has adopted a more realistic outlook towards issues related to the war and other matters. Prior to the victory of the (1979) Islamic Revolution Iran's political and economic relations were inclined towards the West. At present the Islamic Republic has outstanding relations with the Soviet Union and has decided to further expand these ties. On the question as to whether I or the foreign minister would visit the Soviet Union this year, no decision has so far been taken in this respect.

The reason that the ICO has failed in its efforts so far is that the organization has not practically adopted a just stance vis-a-vis the war. It did not condemn the aggressor from the very beginning, nor did it identify the aggressor. If the IOC had done so (condemned the aggressor) the Islamic states and governments would certainly play a very effective role in connection with the war and find proper solutions for the conflict. There is recently new hope that the new secretary general of the IOC might take a more equitable attitude which could help further activate the Islamic states and the IOC itself.

This plane belongs to Kuwait and will be handed over to the government of that country as soon as the necessary conditions are provided. [as published]

They were not as widespread as portrayed by the world mass media. In Tehran there was something down-town linked with moral and cultural issues which the people confronted and it was over. In other cities too there were some demonstrations against the Western style of dress which was protested by some people. We can conclude (from these events) that it was a warning by the people themselves against the return of Western codes in the society because our system is based deeply in the Islamic culture.

Our nation attaches great significance to all elections and they have proven this practically. They regard this as a religious duty and their all-out participation in the elections has enabled us to establish our legal institutions with unprecedented speed. Our expectation of the people for participation in the forthcoming presidential elections is that they will definitely take part in these elections wholeheartedly.

There are still some people inside our country who are greatly influenced by the U.S. The political position taking of these individuals in fact, are coordinated with oppressive attitudes at the international level. In the documents seized from the U.S. spy den (former American Embassy in Tehran) there is a reference to one of these individuals who is described as attaching great significance to America's judgement about Iran.

There was recently wide scale activity worldwide against the war and aimed at imposing a peace upon us which would guarantee U.S. interests in the region. Simultaneously they (freedom movement) thought as if something had happened and therefore began to adopt similar positions. But this position-taking was practically foiled thanks to the people's presence in the scene.

There is no obstacle in the way for Mr (Mehdi) Bazargan (former prime minister) and other gentlemen to participate in the forthcoming presidential elections. They too can take part in the

elections on the basis of the framework set by the constitution and nobody would disturb them. They can hold interviews with the mass media representatives as they did and brought the worst accusations against the system (the Islamic Republic). But as it was seen, the system did not protest against them. But sometimes when they stand against the people, the people themselves take action.

Where in the world would you find individuals who dare to speak against a war particularly under conditions that an entire world has been mobilized against a nation which is embroiled in it.

Montazeri Meets Lebanese Clergymen in Qom

*GF290800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
29 May 85*

[Text] A group of Lebanese seminarians and struggling clergymen based in Qom Seminary met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday afternoon. While expressing their gratitude for his message to the Lebanese ulema in connection with the internal bloody clashes in that country, they presented a report about the latest situation in Lebanon. Then Grand Ayatollah Montazeri praised the sense of responsibility of the struggling seminarians and noted that the efforts made by the Prophet of Islam on establishing unity between the (?Qwos and Khazerb) Muslim tribes.

He said: Following the clear orders of the Koran and the efforts of the Holy Prophet to establish unity between Muslims, the Jewish tribe, which at the time was the real enemy of the Koran and Islam, started their plot by sending mysterious persons between the two tribes and by reminding them of the previous animosity among Muslims. It was not long before an internal war and bloodshed was about to take place but at this time the holy verse came forth "and hold fast, all together, by the rope which God stretches out for you and be not divided among ourselves."

It warned Muslims against friction and internal clashes in the face of the enemies of Islam. He then noted the recent situation in Lebanon and emphasized that today also the Zionists and other occupying forces have failed before the Lebanese Muslims and have fled because of the unity between the Lebanese Muslims and the struggling Muslim forces. He added: Israel and the United States have concentrated their plots against the unity of the Muslim Lebanese. They have realized that so long as this unity exists between the struggling Muslims, whether Shi'ite or Sunni, all their colonialist efforts will be foiled.

This is why they have urged the people who have certain political goals to organize an internal war between the Palestinian Muslims and groups of struggling Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims using small slights in order to cause incidents in Lebanon, which is still struggling against Israel and its allies, and in order to bring dishonor to Islam and Shi'ism.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri went on to say: I am sure that the mysterious hands of Israel and the United States are in these plots. They are trying to disgrace Islam and Shi'ism in the Islamic world and to create an everlasting war between the Lebanese Shi'ites and Palestinian Muslims who are at present

refugees from their occupied homeland and are guests of the Muslim Lebanese nation.

He then pointed out: Of course we must consider the records of the Muslim and oppressed people of Palestine separately from that of some of their leaders and politicians. If, for example, the Palestinian leaders do not assume the correct position and have different view and attitude toward them, then this must not be put on the accounts of the Muslim Palestinian nation or their women and children. He added: I am not saying there are no corrupt or deviate people among the few million Palestinians. It is natural that when a nation is a refugee from its homeland and the Muslim countries do not do their best for them, the youth of such countries take refuge in various countries and places. It is possible that they are overcome with corruption of belief and deviationism. However, the major guilty parties are the heads of the Islamic countries who are unable to defend the rights of the Palestinian people and to provide their ideological and political needs in accordance with the orders of Islam and the Koran.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then said: Those people who take advantage of the simplicity and purity of our Shi'a brothers and sisters in Lebanon for their own political goals and who have instigated them and have created war and bloodshed between the Muslim Palestinian refugees and a group of Shi'a Lebanese struggling Muslims must realize their mistake. They must know that if they continue with their non-Muslim ways which has caused the (?anger) of the messenger of God it is possible there will be such conditions that we will have to separate the records of that small group from that of the Shi'ites. These people must repent and change their ways, and end the bloodshed and killing of Muslims which is unfortunately done in the name of Shi'ism in Lebanon. They must not provide so much propaganda material for the media of the enemies of Islam.

In conclusion, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri noted: They are using the disarming of Palestinians as an excuse for a plot by Israel and the United States which want to make sure that there will be no other forces except the Zionists and the Phalangists in Lebanon. They want to be able to do anything and commit any crime or cruelty without anyone resisting them. I feel sure that today they are saying the Palestinians must not be armed in Lebanon, and tomorrow they will say the Lebanese Shi'ites and all other struggling forces or the Sunnis must not be armed either. The main goal of United States and Israel is the disarmament of all struggling Muslims whether Shi'a or Sunni, Lebanese or Palestinian. Unfortunately this plot is carried out by people who are unaware. In southern Lebanon all the people who wish to combat Israel must be armed, and according to the Koran people who fight with the Zionists are [word indistinct] from God. No one and no official can or should try to prevent the struggle against the Zionists.

Ambassador to Hungary Reports to President

*LD261204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
26 May 85*

[Text] Mr 'Ali Akbar Farazi, Iran's Ambassador to Hungary, met with Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the republic, before noon today, and presented a report on his area of respon-

sibility and on bilateral relations between Iran and Hungary to the president. In this meeting, Mr Khamene'i, while delivering necessary guidelines, emphasized the expansion of friendly relations between the two countries.

Tehran on Iraqi 'Agents' Arrested in Bahrain
GF252000 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 1730 GMT 25 May 85

[From "Behind the News" program]

[Text] Reports from Bahrain have said that during the last 2 weeks, 13 agents of the Iraqi regime's intelligence have been arrested in Bahrain. These agents are accused of forming secret cells within the ranks of the Bahraini Army. These reports said that a number of employees at the Iraqi Embassy in Manama were among those arrested. They have admitted that they undertook to form these secret cells according to orders sent to them from Baghdad.

This saboteur bandit's operation might have been uncovered by accident. Some sources said that one of the Iraqi Embassy employees belonging to the group tried to unlawfully enter the Jufayr naval base aided by an officer. However, the base's security forces apprehended them. These two persons afterward confessed to the network affair and its secret cells. The Bahraini authorities are still investigating others who might have been involved in this network and its secret cells and to determine their aims and intentions.

Observers concerned with developments in the region and the Iraqi regime's policies attribute these intentions to various possibilities. The Baghdad regime forces some governments to adhere to a specific policy toward it by threatening to disrupt the internal situation in these countries by using its intelligence agents. Terror is a method of blackmail to which the Baghdad regime resorts, especially in its present situation. Accordingly, it is likely that these cells are a method of blackmailing the Bahraini Government and forcing it to economically support the Baghdad regime until the end of the war.

As well as economic blackmail, there is also political blackmail behind using such groups in case there is any negative development in the stance of the Bahraini Government toward the Iraqi regime. Lastly, it is possible that the purpose of these recently discovered secret cells is to prepare for a coup d'etat in Bahrain. The Baghdad rulers might be thinking that the Gulf governments have been distancing themselves from them. It must be pointed out that the use of terror in blackmailing the Gulf countries is one of the constant policies of the Baghdad regime. The recent Riyadh explosions are an example and have been attributed to Iraqi intelligence by various sources.

Tehran Arabic Comments on Incident

GF281110 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 0925 GMT 28 May 85

[Commentary: "The Iraqi Regime and its Criminal Provocations"]

[Text] In 1971 the Iraqi regime dispatched to its military attaché's office in Manama several boxes of ammunition and explosives. These boxes were discovered by the Bahraini authorities at the time. Investigations revealed that the purpose of dispatching these boxes was to carry out a series of explosions and to threaten Bahrain's security.

Prior to 1971 the Iraqi intelligence service had recruited some Bahrainis to assassinate some important Bahraini figures that repeatedly spoke of Saddam's destructive role in the Gulf region. In fact these Bahrainis did succeed in assassinating a well-known Bahraini journalist. The Bahraini authorities apprehended the culprits and through them it identified all the members of the Iraqi Saddamist band.

Some days ago the Bahraini authorities uncovered a new Saddamist conspiratorial network in Manama. The network's mission was to stage a military coup in Bahrain after infiltrating the officers of the Armed Forces.

Thus the Iraqi regime has demonstrated that it is a source of instability in the region and that its primary task is sabotage.

It is strange that Saddam should behave in such a manner toward Bahrain in view of Bahrain's positive stands toward the Baghdad regime in the war it imposed on the Islamic Republic. By such action Saddam proves that he does not distinguish between friend or foe, and that his thinking is hostile at all times and in all circumstances. Therefore the people of the area should understand this fact and make every effort to rid the region of such a threat.

Saddam has become more aggressive following the success of the Iranian-Saudi talks, having carried out explosions in Riyadh as a response to the success of the talks. This indicates that Saddam will carry out further acts of sabotage in the area countries.

Iraqis in UAE Dismissed for 'Suspect' Actions

GF261620 Tehran International Service in Arabic
 1430 GMT 26 May 85

[Excerpt] An Arab diplomat in a statement to the IRNA correspondent in Islamabad — has said that 20 Iraqi nationals in the UAE, most of whom are members of the Iraqi Ba'th Party, have been dismissed from their posts during the last 3 weeks after being accused of carrying out suspect and espionage activities.

He added that the UAE security organs are carefully watching the movements of the foreign nationals on its territory, particularly the movements of the Iraqi Communist and Ba'th parties' members, which they suspect of being conspiratorial.

The Arab diplomat drew a connection between the visit to the UAE by Sa'dun Shakir, the Iraqi interior minister, on 18 May

1985 and the situation of the Iraqi Ba'th Party members who reside there. He said: During this visit, Sa'dun Shakir made wide-ranging attempts to justify the actions which are carried out by Iraqi elements in the UAE.

IRNA on Dismissed Iraqis

LD262054 Tehran IRNA in English 1833 GMT 26 May 85

[Text] Islamabad, May 26 IRNA — Twenty Iraqi citizens most of whom members of the Iraqi Ba'th Party, were dismissed from their jobs in the United Arab Emirates on charges of suspicious activities and espionage.

An Arab diplomatic speaking to IRNA here further said that the measure took place during the past three weeks. He said that the UAE intelligence agency recently has shown special sensitivity towards foreign citizens especially members of the Communist and Ba'th parties of Iraq, and controls any suspicious move by them.

He said that the trip of the Iraqi interior minister, Sa'dun Shakir on May 18 to the UAE was in connection with the condition of the members of the Ba'th Party there. He stressed that Sa'dun Shakir made great efforts to justify the action of the Iraqi agents.

Some time ago, 13 Iraqi citizens were arrested in Bahrain on charges of forming an underground [word indistinct] regime and of embarking on espionage activities in that country. Bahraini officials are following up the case to arrest other agents of this conspiracy and to unveil their plots.

It is to be noted that the Iraqi regime has resorted to threats and acts of terror and even has caused explosions in small Persian Gulf countries to blackmail them.

Saddam's regime has so far planted several powerful bombs in Kuwait in order to terrify the country's authorities and the latest sample of these measures was infiltrating into the Bahraini Army by forming an underground group.

Notes to International Bodies on Retaliation

LD271235 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1050 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Simultaneous with the Iraqi missile attacks and air raids on residential and nonmilitary areas, several notes in connection with the recent adventurist acts by the rulers of Baghdad and the need for decisive retaliatory steps by the Islamic Republic of Iran, were sent to international and regional organizations and bodies. In these notes, which have been sent to the UN secretary general, the leader of the Nonaligned Movement, and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, it is clearly stated: Experience has shown that the Iraqi regime is not prepared to accept humanitarian and international principles in response to peaceful approaches, this is why the Islamic Republic of Iran, in reply to that regime's previous attacks on residential areas, was forced to retaliate in kind by hitting selected targets deep inside that country and in air raids and missile attacks, and

succeeded in preventing the Iraqi regime from continuing its crimes for a time.

No doubt, just as before, Iraq's attacks on towns will be severely retaliated against. The objective behind our retaliatory operations is only to force the Iraqi regime to abide by international regulations and stop attacking residential areas. Meanwhile, the spokesman of our Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while denying any involvement by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Kuwaiti incident and stating that such actions go against the policies of the Islamic Iran, considered the air raids on residential areas carried out by the Baghdad regime as evidence of its tension-creating and warmongering nature. Once again, he repeated the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran in limiting the war and maintaining friendly relations with neighboring countries and the coastal countries of the Persian Gulf.

The trend of recent incidents has shown in practice that Saddam, because of his inability to free himself from this self-imposed death-trap, is trying in vain to create tension and to expand the war to involve other countries in an effort to prepare the ground for a way out of this deadlock for himself. But, contrary to the calculations and predictions of the Iraqi regime, because of the steadfastness and enthusiastic resistance from the Muslim nation of Iran, such acts of adventurism have been unsuccessful. Although the anxieties and despair of the rulers of Iraq has forced them to resort to measures which have already failed, the end result will only be what they have already experienced in the past, because the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined, despite its inner wish and in an effort to stop such savage policies, to deal crushing blows on creators of tension and warmongers by its retaliatory measures. Despite the multicolored plots of world oppressors, Iran will continue its retaliation and resistance until the final victory.

Such crimes committed by the Iraqi regime are prime evidence of the inhuman nature and evil aims of that regime and are in themselves a suitable answer to all those who still think that such an evil phenomenon can be trusted — a phenomenon which will continue its crime as soon as the opportunity presents itself. If Washington and Saddam's Western allies imagine that their direct interference will change the situation to Iraq's advantage and will prepare the ground for forcing the Islamic Republic into a compromise, they should realize that, as the Majlis speaker stated: God forbid the day when our ports are subjected to aggression by these international criminals. You can rest assured that no ship would be able to drop anchor in any of the Persian Gulf ports and there would be no ports left to receive any ships. The responsibility for such a day and the crisis following it would lie with the arch satan. The Islamic Republic would merely defend itself.

Tehran Air Raids, Counterattacks Continue

Bakhtaran Cities Bombed

LD280908 Tehran IRNA in English 0844 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Prov., May 28, IRNA — Iraqi war planes bombed the city of Gilan-e Gharb, in Bakhtaran Province, at 10:29 local time (06:59 GMT) Tuesday morning, martyring

one person and injuring another one. A number of houses and shops were damaged and nearby wheat fields caught fire due to the raid.

In another development, Iraqi planes bombed several points in Ilam, Ilam Province, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Bakhtaran Province, in which a number of houses and shops were destroyed.

What fields caught fire and damages inflicted on livestock. No details is yet available on the number of casualties in the two above mentioned cities.

UN Invited To View Bomb Sites

LD280850 Tehran IRNA in English 0738 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Ministry Tuesday invited the U.N. representative in Tehran to inspect areas bombed in Tehran this morning by Iraqi planes, as well as the Iraqi POW camp which was also hit by two enemy rockets.

In another development, the War Information Headquarters announced Tuesday that domestic and foreign reporters can visit the said POW camp on Wednesday to prepare reports and pictures.

Basra Under Artillery Fire

LD281112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1037 GMT 28 May 85

[Excerpt] In retaliation for the recent air raids by the fighter planes of the Ba'thist forces of Iraq on residential areas of our Islamic homeland, the artillery units of the Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps kept military and economic installations in Basra Province under their fire.

Reports from Islamic news agency correspondents indicate that the artillery of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps opened up intensive and coordinated fire on economic and military installations in Basra, At-Tannumah, Ziyadiyah, Sayhan, Abu al-Khasib, Fao, and Al-Zubayr in southern Iraq, and inflicted major damage on Iraq's economic centers. According to the same reports, the roads used by enemy vehicles — Fao-Basra, Basra-An Nasiriyah, Basra-At-Tannumah and Basra-Al Amarah were kept under intensive artillery fire by the powerful forces of Islam. Communication between the 3rd and 4th Corps of Iraq's Armed forces was seriously disrupted. Parts of southwest Basra Province have no electricity supply following an attack by the fast-flying planes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Hur al-Zubayr powerplant.

Iran Denies Plane Downed

LD281617 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28 IRNA — Iran today categorically denied Iraq's claim Monday that an Iranian fighter plane had been downed in Al 'Amarah Province.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters said that 16 Iranian bomber fighters had carried out a series of operations Monday afternoon during which they bombarded military centres and installations of Al 'Amarah and Jassan including bunkers and concentration centres of the armoured and infantry units of the Third Army of Iraq in Al 'Amarah inflicting considerable casualties upon the enemy. He said the Baghdad regime had claimed to have downed one Iranian aircraft solely for the purpose of boosting the morale of the personnel of the Third Army.

The spokesman said all the Iranian fighter planes had returned to their bases safely and stressed that Iraq's claim was nothing beyond a face-saving propaganda.

11 Dead in Tehran Air Raid

LD281623 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — The latest casualty figure of Iraq's air raid of Tehran last night and early today has now risen to 11 martyrs.

Iraqi planes fired three rockets on Tehran Monday two of which hit an Iraqi POW camp holding 7,000 Iraqi captives and another hit a housing unit.

Representatives of the United Nations stationed here have been invited to inspect the site hit by Iraqi rockets in the POW camp.

Communique on Raids

LD281704 Tehran IRNA in English 1653 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — The military's Joint Staff said Tuesday that Iranian forces have bombarded industrial and military installations in 12 Iraqi cities and towns in retaliation for Iraqi raids on residential areas in Iran.

The command said in communique No. 2117 that Iraqi planes continued their raids against Iranian positions Tuesday but failed to inflict any damages in most of the sorties because of heavy Iranian anti-aircraft fire.

Iraqi planes however martyred and wounded scores of civilians in their raids on Tehran, Ilam, Baneh, Ghilan-e Gharb, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Piranshahr, Marivan and Abadan, it said.

In retaliation Iranian artillery bombarded military and industrial centers in Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Badra, Naft Khaneh, Halabjah, Sayyid Sadiq, Chuwartah, Shanadari, Varmahraz, Khormal and the military township of Dahlor.

The command said it will continue retaliations until the enemy stopped its criminal acts.

In the front lines, the command said Iran's Muslim combatants killed at least 40 Iraqi troops and destroyed 3 trucks, and a number of weaponry positions.

The command said the combatants held the upper hand in the confrontations.

5th Raid on Tehran Reported*LD281905 Tehran IRNA in English 1902 GMT 28 May 85*

[Text] Tehran May 28 IRNA — Red alert was sounded and total blackout was observed here minutes before invading Iraqi aircraft violated the Iranian capital's airspace at 20:58 hours local time (17:28 GMT). The blackout continued for about 15 minutes.

Officials said the intruding enemy aircraft had not succeeded in hitting any target. One bang was heard which the officials said was the breaking of the sound barrier by the fleeing enemy aircraft.

This was the fifth enemy air raid on Tehran since Sunday when Iraq resumed its inhuman attacks on innocent civilians. Scores of people have been either martyred or wounded in these cowardly attacks on Tehran and other Iranian towns and cities over the past two days.

Baneh Bombed, 2 Dead*LD281842 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 28 May 85*

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — Iraqi aircraft air raided the city of Baneh, in Kordestan Province at 10:00 hours local time (06:30 hours GMT) today taking at least two lives.

In another incident, one civilian was martyred and three others wounded as residential and commercial buildings were damaged in Iraqi bombardment of the city of Gilan-e Gharb in Bakhtaran Province at 10:29 hours local time (06:59 hours GMT) today. Some wheat farms also caught fire.

The cities of Piranshahr in West Azarbayjan, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, in Bakhtaran and Ilam were attacked by Iraqi aircraft around 10:00 local time (06:30 hours GMT) today with no precise reports yet on possible casualties. In Piranshahr only two civilians were wounded.

Tehran Air Raid Thwarted*GF290430 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 29 May 85*

[Text] According to IRNA, last night's enemy attack on Tehran was foiled by the timely use of radar and heavy air defences. The enemy plane was forced to fire two missiles from a high altitude, neither of which exploded. The missiles fell into a nonresidential area.

At 0130 [2150 GMT] this morning enemy planes tried to bomb Tehran residential areas but before any damage could be inflicted, the planes were forced to flee as a result of heavy air defenses.

SAIRI Source on Baghdad Attack*GF290740 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 29 May 85*

[Text] A source close to the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] discussed the missile that was fired at Baghdad yesterday in response to the Iraqi regime's attacks on populated areas in Iran. He announced that the missile hit an area 300 meters from the computer center of the Iraqi Defense Ministry, and that it hit a large sports ground for military parades.

The source said that the missile caused huge losses to the ruling Zionist regime in Iraq.

The officers's club and one of the important headquarters of the Iraqi Ba'th Party are also situated near the missile attack.

Artillery Hits Ba'th Headquarters*LD290832 Tehran IRNA in English 0819 GMT 29 May 85*

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — Iran's heavy artillery hit the headquarter of the Iraqi Ba'th Party in Al-Zubayr, Basra Province, killing and injuring a number of Iraqis.

Reports reaching here from southern Iraq said that the headquarter was hit when three buses carrying Iraqi Ba'th Party members to be dispatched to centers behind the fronts, had parked beside the building. A shell hit one of the buses, killing or injuring over 30 Iraqi Ba'thists.

The Iraqi Ba'th Party's headquarters has been damaged extensively, the reports said, adding that with the resumption of shelling of southern Iraq by Iranian artillery, inhabitants of these places are gradually leaving their cities for remote areas.

Iran resumed shelling military and strategic areas in Basra in retaliation for Iraqi attacks against residential quarters in Iran.

Bakhtaran Bombings Retaliated*LD291042 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 29 May 85*

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Prov., May 29, IRNA — Iranian forces pounded Iraqi patrol teams, killing or injuring 48 Iraqi troops and destroying nine individual and group bunkers in western Bakhtaran and Ilam fronts during the past 24 hours.

Meanwhile, in retaliation for the recent Iraqi air attacks on western Iranian cities, Islamic combatants crushed military and industrial installations in Mandali, Khormal, Sayyid Sadiq, and Darband-e Khan, destroying Iraqi ammunition depots.

Southern Iraqi Cities Shelled*LD291053 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 29 May 85*

[Text] Ahvaz, May 29, IRNA — Iranian forces shelled economic and military establishments in Basra, At-Tannumah, Sihan, Al-Zubayr, Faw, and Ziyadiyah in southern Iraq during the past

24 hours in retaliation for Iraqi attacks against Iranian residential areas.

Due to the heavy fire of Iranian artillery on Garmehali and Khor Zubayr fly-overs, Basra was disconnected from outside for a while. Other reports from Basra indicate that tribesmen in this province who are major producers of foodstuff and agricultural products are migrating towards Nasiriyah and Al-Imara Provinces.

Meanwhile, A'shar, A'jobila and A'najiba regions in Basra, where military and economic establishments are located, as well as Sheraton Hotel and port establishments of the city were hit by Iranian artillery during the past 48 hours.

The strategic military Basra-Saffan and Basra-At-Tannumah highways were under the constant shelling of Iranian artillery as a result of which a number of military vehicles were destroyed.

The Islamic combatants of Iran, despite having coordinates of various corners of Basra, have mainly targetted military and economic centers which has caused disorder in the Iraqi forces.

Ministry 'Would Welcome' International Effort

LD281835 Tehran IRNA in English 1822 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — The Iranian Foreign Ministry has not yet received an official request from the United Nation's secretary general Javier Perez de Cuellar to visit Iran but would welcome any international effort aimed at safeguarding international conventions, announced a senior official at the Iranian Foreign Ministry here Tuesday.

Perez de Cuellar has reportedly announced readiness to visit Iran and Iraq in a bid to halt the recent escalation of attacks on civilian areas that started with an Iraqi air raid on Tehran Sunday.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili said although the Foreign Ministry was certain the secretary general was personally concerned over the new Iraqi raids on residential areas and thus intended to force Iraq to observe international laws but experience has shown that friendly calls would not force Iraq to do so. [sentence as received]

Kazempur-Ardabili added that although "the Iranian Foreign Ministry and its representative in New York had not received any official request in this regard however, we would welcome any international effort aimed at safeguarding human laws".

He said despite the hindrances made by some members of the Security Council, the Islamic Republic expects the United Nations and other international organizations to take a firm stand vis-a-vis the new wave of Iraqi crimes.

On the escalation of Iraqi raids on civilian quarters in Iran, the deputy minister said as the Persian Gulf states embarked on efforts for closer ties with Iran a consequent escalation of hostilities by Iraq could be foreseen.

"No doubt Iraq cannot tolerate joint moves by Iran and other countries in the region," he said.

"It is not accidental that as such advances are made to Iran, Iraq's plots against the stability of the region increase," he said.

Disabled POW's Return to Tehran Via Ankara

LD290812 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — Thirty Iranian disabled prisoners of war, freed by the Iraqi regime following Iran's humanistic measure in unilaterally releasing disabled Iraqi POW's, arrived here Tuesday night after an overnight delay in Turkey for technical problems.

The freed Iranian POW's, all of whom except for four have lost one leg or are paralyzed, were welcomed at Tehran's international Mehrabad Airport by the members of the commission to support POW's and those missing in action.

In an announcement, the commission said that in a humanistic move Iran had previously released 147 Iraqi POW's in three stages and will continue doing so in future.

Although the Iraqi regime, despite international efforts, was creating obstacles for the release of disabled Iranian POW's, the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue its humanistic efforts to send all disabled Iraqi POW's back to their country, the announcement added.

Meanwhile, one of the freed Iranian POW's, whose legs are paralyzed, told IRNA that 28 months ago when he was carrying food for Iranian combatants the Iraqi forces captured him by shooting him from behind.

He added that after being beaten by two Iraqi troops, he was then taken to Anbar camp, noting that no doctor visited him as long as he was at the camp.

The released Iranian POW stressed that when injured Iranians are captured, the Iraqis would not provide them with required medical care and added that he had repeatedly witnessed that resistant Iranian POW's were tortured by the Iraqis.

Judicial Commission Discusses Registration Law

LD271511 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Unit, in today's joint discussions between the Supreme Judicial Council and the Majlis Judicial Committee, it was decided that priority should be given to the amended bill of the registration law that was presented to the Majlis so that areas which have faced difficulties in connection with registration matters should have these difficulties removed as soon as possible.

In this session it was approved that complaints sent in by the Majlis Judicial Commission should henceforth be presented to the director general of the Department of Registration, so that,

according to regulations, decisive and legislative measures be taken on them.

On the basis of this same report, in this session, taking note of the shortage of registration offices in some regions, and the necessity to employ 800 new staff to eliminate this shortage, it was decided to raise this problem in the Majlis to obtain permission to employ new staff. According to the report of our correspondent, Hoseyn Shayegan, representative of the Public Board [as heard] of the Supreme Court, were appointed to the three-member commission for supervising elections for membership of the Supreme Judicial Council.

Baghdad-Ankara 'Agreement' on Kurds Viewed
LD252036 Tehran IRNA in English 1848 25 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA -- In the autumn of 1984 Baghdad and Ankara entered into an agreement for fighting the Kurds in each other's territories. Since then the Turkish Government has given much assistance to the Baghdad Government for suppressing the Kurds in the various parts of Iraq and along the Iraq-Turkey border though the Kurds, too, have been fighting back.

The deployment of a large number of Iraqi and Turkish troops in Behdinan along the Iraq-Turkey border has now placed the Iraqi Kurds in an adverse condition. The concentration of the Turkish and Iraqi troops here is the result of an agreement last autumn between Baghdad and Ankara for holding the Iraqi Kurds in check.

A French commission for the prevention of repression in Iraq says the arrangement is a preventative measure adopted by the Iraqi Government for having a firmer grip upon the Kurds in the wake of executing at least as many as 100 Kurdish guerrillas in that country.

Recently one group of Iraqi Kurds reported that Kurdish villages had been frequently bombarded by the Baghdad Government and that agents of the central government had set ablaze much of the agricultural crop of the rural Kurds in that country.

Dissident Iraqi Kurds said last month that they had captured 26 expatriate nationals during a recent fighting with the troops of the central government in Baghdad. Among the captured there are four Poles, one Italian, one Chinese and two Japanese.

The Baghdad-Ankara agreement commits both governments to fight the Kurds in Kirkuk, Sulaymaniyah, Mosul, Irbil, Kuysan-jaq, Kifri, and Raniyah.

Last autumn Turkey and Iraq signed a treaty for fighting Kurdish guerrillas each of the two enjoying the right to chase the Kurds in the territory of the other party, the Kurds, however, protested against the treaty at the time.

So far the Ankara government has acted more in the capacity of aiding the Baghdad government in fighting the guerrilla Kurds though there are indications that recently it has considered a more active role in the fighting. Recent reports and among them

a Saturday report of the Persian language service of the B.B.C. World Service say the Turks are concentrating their troops along parts of the border with Iraq.

The Baghdad government has waged a war with the Kurds apparently as a means of punishing them in the wake of the breaking down of talks with the Kurds. The central government in Iraq is best capable of fighting the Kurds only during spring and summer which is a relatively convenient time to dispatch troops to the otherwise frosty highlands of the country.

The Kurds of Iraq are now alarmed by the concentration in Behdinan of the Turkish troops, and already they are expecting a full-scale thrust by the Turkish troops.

For the Kurds, however, who have the backing of years of firm resistance no threat seems to be serious enough to force them to conciliation with the ruling government in Baghdad.

Free Voice of Iran Says Buckley Died in Tehran
GF261647 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 26 May 85

[Text] The United States wants to bomb the city of Qom. This U.S. threat has been repeated several times; this shows that the Washington administration is serious about its threat. The Islamic Jihad terrorist organization, which has kidnapped former U.S. Embassy Adviser William Buckley in Beirut, along with four other Americans and two Frenchmen, has moved them to Tehran.

After the death of William Buckley in Tehran, this organization has had no other choice to release its prisoners from Kuwait, other than apply pressure on Kuwait. William Buckley, former adviser at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, has died under torture in Tehran, according to reports received by British intelligence organizations.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has announced that if any harm is done to the American hostages, the United States will stage a military attack against Iran. In the first phase of this attack will be the city of Qom and then the oil installations at Khark Island, naval and air bases in Bandar 'Abbas, and Hormoz Island will be air raided.

Free Voice of Iran on Islamic Jihad, Buckley
GF271804 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 27 May 85

[Unattributed commentary: "Terrorists in the Trap of Terror"]

[Text] Dear compatriots, the Islamic Republic is playing with fire. This fire will eventually set its own skirt on fire. We have a proverb in Farsi which says: You escaped once, you escaped twice, the third time you will be caught.

But the Islamic Republic, which has finally been hurt by its own actions, still thinks it is in control of matters.

Last Saturday the controlled publications in Tehran all wrote in detail and with big headlines that the United States has warned the Islamic Republic that if the Islamic Jihad kills our hostages, we shall take military actions against Iran. The newspapers, following a report by the ASSOCIATED PRESS, showed such arrogance that it seemed the Islamic Jihad is [word indistinct] of the Islamic Republic. They acted as if all terrorist plans carried out by this organization have been masterminded in Tehran.

This includes the hostage-taking of four Americans and two Frenchmen. Recently the Islamic Jihad linked their release to that of those who have been imprisoned in Kuwait for terrorist activities. The organization has threatened that if these demands are not met, anything that happens to the hostages would be because of an indifference to their demands. We at present are not commenting on the terrorist activities of this same organization, controlled by the Islamic Republic, against Kuwaiti interests and the person of the Kuwait amir.

In March the security adviser to Ronald Reagan said in a speech that the United States has enough documents which indicate that Shi'ite extremist terrorists get their orders and are commanded by Ayatollah Khomeyni's Islamic Republic. This is why they hold the United States [as heard] responsible for attacks on its citizens and interests in the Middle East. He added that the United States when the time is right will take forceful actions against governments which support terrorist activity.

[Passage indistinct] U.S. secretary of state in February on the anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic in Iran sent messages to Iran through diplomatic channels. He reminded the Iranians that he knew the Islamic Jihad had connections with the Islamic Republic and warned that if the American hostages are killed, the Islamic Republic would be faced with retaliatory measures.

Therefore, under such circumstances, the printing of the full text of three statements or messages from the Islamic Jihad coincides with the report by the ASSOCIATED PRESS on the American threats printed in Tehran newspapers. This is something like the bet that Mullah Nasr-Eddin made. He said: If anyone tells me what I am hiding in my robe, he can have all of the 10 eggs I am hiding.

In the first message which started, In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate, and addressed to world public opinion, especially the Americans and those who love freedom and justice, the Islamic Jihad organization said they have never really been in favor of actions such as hostage-taking and if they have undertaken such actions it is because of American cruelties which include the most savage acts in the Middle East. For example, the Kuwait Government, which is allied with the United States, has imprisoned our brothers who wanted to break the chains of slavery. When we saw that our efforts fail to gain the freedom of our brothers, we took some Americans and French hostage, against our real intentions. We have linked their freedom to the release of our brothers from Kuwait. We now expect all backers of freedom and justice to join us to force the United States to leave our brothers in Kuwait alone. This was the first message.

In the second message this same request was made from the families of the hostages. And at the end they said that they would not wait any longer and would take actions that would petrify the United States and France. Finally, in the third message, which was addressed to Jesse Jackson, the American priest, there was a threat to the U.S. Government to release our brothers so that the hostages would be set free.

The answer to these threats was given by the security adviser of the United States, who had given his reply before these statements were issued. He had said: We cannot act in such a way that would increase terrorist activity. We must show that we can use our power in the best way possible at the right time. Now the American publications report that the U.S. President has ordered that if harm is done to one of the American hostages, the United States Air Force will bomb one of four targets. These targets include Qom, the headquarters of the Islamic Republic in Lebanon, the Khark oil terminal, and Bandar 'Abbas near the Straits of Hormuz.

This time the Islamic Republic has fallen into such a trap that the regime's officials, although they are experts at deception, corruption and trickery good enough to teach the devil, have now reached such a deadlock that release from it is not easy.

It is said by some that William Buckley, one of the American hostages, has been killed under torture in Tehran. The announcement of his death could bring about the dangerous consequences of a U.S. attack. In this case the leaders of the Islamic Republic have no choice but to throw themselves to the hands of fate and to tangle with the West, headed by the United States. They will be forced to throw themselves into a wave of turbulence and incidents whose consequences would be the destruction of the regime. Or else they stay in favor of a regime which has come to power by terror and continues its rule with terror. They spend a considerable amount of the country's budget, while its people are struggling with various shortages, on terrorist programs carried out here and there.

Last week, on the same day that they invited the Saudi foreign minister to Tehran, this same Islamic Jihad organization, which is controlled by the mullahs of Tehran, caused an explosion in Riyadh. It wanted to show its strength and create fear. This week, again this same organization, which is responsible for carrying out the Islamic Republic's programs, created an explosion in Kuwait to show its power and to scare the Arab world.

A scorpion stings, not because it hates you, but because that is its nature. The Islamic Republic is a regime which only uses chaos, turbulences, wars, terror, fears, and worries to continue its life. If these do not exist, its downfall is imminent.

In today's world terrorist activity is like a mirror which reflects and backfires into the face of the terrorists themselves.

Dear compatriots, let us all ask God to be kind, before Khomeyni's and all his lackeys' madness destroys Iran, to save our brothers and sisters and our loved ones and relatives from this trap that we are stuck in.

Nejat-e Iran: Qomi Refuses Khomeyni Invitation
GF251900 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian
1630 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Ayatollah Seyyed Hasan Tabataba'i-Qomi has refused an indirect invitation by Khomeyni to come to Tehran and meet him. Instead, he sent another strongly-worded message to Khomeyni about the war.

According to a report by one of our correspondents in Qom based on information he has obtained from a mullah attached to the Hojjatiyeh group, Ruhollah Khomeyni recently sent a friendly message to Ayatollah Qomi in Mashhad through one of his close aides in which he noted their past association and invited him to come to Tehran as his guest. Ayatollah Tabataba'i-Qomi strongly refused this invitation and sent him another message concerning the immediate end to the war and the proclamation of a cease-fire. The message warned Khomeyni that the regime is digging its own grave by continuing and expanding the war. It is moving closer to the precipice each day and it is better to stop any further loss of honor of the clergy in the society.

The report quoted sources close to Ayatollah Tabataba'i-Qomi and added: Apparently in a private gathering Ahmad Kho

meyni noted that Khomeyni's invitation to Ayatollah Qomi has been another part of the regime's plot against his life, something they did not manage to carry out in the recent attack against his home.

Apparently those emulating Ayatollah Qomi and his other supporters assumed the duties of protecting his life months ago and are maintaining guards at his place of worship around the clock.

Soviet-Afghan Forces Hit in Badghis Province
LD271729 Tehran IRNA in English 1707 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Mashad, Khorasan pr., May 27, IRNA — Afghan Muslim revolutionaries downed two fighter planes and destroyed 6 tanks in Badghis (north Afghanistan) province last week. At least 31 joint Soviet-Karmal troops were killed in these attacks.

In another operation in Qal'eh-ye Now, the province's capital, Afghan mujahideen managed to seize one vehicle and two rifles, killing ten troops of the joint forces.

Meanwhile 4 Muslim revolutionaries and a number of innocent people were martyred, in joint forces retaliation.